

# 2021 UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT



UNITED NATIONS  
JAMAICA



MARCH 2022



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# Foreword

The past year has been challenging, primarily due to the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic which left no country unscathed. However, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) demonstrated its firm and passionate commitment to protecting hard won development gains and rebuilding a nation and communities resilient to a constantly evolving global situation.

2021 was a pivotal year for the United Nations in the Caribbean. Most importantly, it marked the strategic development of the next Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) (2022–2026), a unique regional development strategy encompassing 22 countries and territories across the Caribbean, including Jamaica and The Bahamas. The UN system in the Caribbean spent most of 2021 evaluating, analysing, consulting, and developing the next generation regional strategy in tandem with Caribbean governments, regional organizations, international development partners, private sector, academia, and civil society organizations. The outcome is the five-year development pathway designed to enable 22 Caribbean nations and territories to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to this, no fewer than seven UN agencies developed their own next generation strategic programme strategies and documents to guide their assistance to enable member states to achieve the SDGs.

The UNCT, as part of its continuing deepening support and expanding partnership, developed eight additional joint programmes, representing a potential envelope of US\$11M in additional resources, demonstrating the team's firm commitment to increasing integrated and comprehensive programming. New partnerships were forged, and platforms provided to connect stakeholders across sectors and strata. Strategic joint events brought together thousands of participants from government, private and public sectors, and youth organizations to connect and exchange ideas around SDG achievement and issues.

With the effects of COVID-19 still reverberating across the global stage, the second year under the global pandemic proved as unpredictable as the first, seeing the mass roll out of vaccines, followed by the rise of the hyper-virulent Omicron variant. Working quickly, the United Nations and the Governments of Jamaica and The Bahamas supported the delivery of over one million doses of vaccine to Jamaica and 158,000 to The Bahamas through the global COVAX facility and strengthened digital vaccine management systems. Despite these efforts, much remains to be done to increase the current vaccination rates in Jamaica and Bahamas which currently stand at 22 percent and 39 percent, respectively.<sup>1</sup>

The recovery from COVID-19, while evident, is still slow. Some countries are seeing recovery from the economic stagnation experienced in 2020, however, key indicators such as gross domestic product, GDP, youth unemployment and labour participation rates still struggle to return to pre-COVID figures. Unfortunately, the pandemic has brought with it, the delays in SDG progress. While important strides have been made in key areas in Jamaica, such as human rights and the environment, including the passage of the Sexual Harassment Bill and the increased commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions continued focus must be given to safeguarding social and cultural recovery along with economic resilience. The United Nations is committed to being a strong and steadfast government partner, supporting a shared development pathway to achieve the SDGs.



**Dr. Garry Conille**

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Jamaica, Bahamas, Bermuda,  
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1 <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations?country=BHS> – fully vaccinated (2 doses)

# Key Development Partners

## Bilateral & Multilateral Donors



## Thematic Funds



## UN Agencies



## Implementing Partners

- Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies
- UN Agencies
- Civil society/Non-Governmental Organizations
- Academia
- Regional Organization Collaborating Partners
- Other Government Departments, Agencies

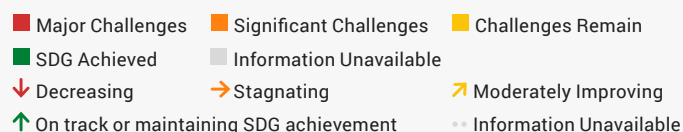
# CHAPTER 1:

## Key developments in the country/ regional context

The Jamaican economy suffered a ten percent contraction in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The government responded swiftly with mitigation measures to increase spending on health and social protection through the reduction of the fiscal balance target, reducing the VAT rate, and exports amid a recovering tourism industry. In 2021, GDP expanded by 4.6 percent according to the latest International Monetary Fund, IMF World Economic Outlook projections during the continuing pandemic and is projected to grow by a further 2.5 percent in 2022<sup>2</sup>.

The Government of Jamaica continued a prudent approach to managing the public finances. For the fiscal year 2021/22, the national budget returned to a small surplus of 0.1 percent and debt is projected to return to plan over the next five years. IMF forecasts show that the debt-to-GDP ratio will reach 64.1 percent by 2026, down from 146.7 percent in 2012. It must be noted that the pandemic did not affect remittances to Jamaica, increasing from US\$2.4 billion in 2019 to US\$2.9 billion in 2020<sup>3</sup> and US\$3.3 billion in 2021<sup>4</sup>.

While policies instituted by the government effectively curtailed the economic impact of COVID-19, recovery efforts have been impeded by the low percentage of the population who are fully vaccinated. The current estimated vaccination rate for Jamaica based on WHO's Coronavirus



2 [https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDP\\_RPCH@WEO/JAM?year=2022](https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDP_RPCH@WEO/JAM?year=2022)

3 <https://tradingeconomics.com/jamaica/remittances>

4 <https://jis.gov.jm/remittances-exceed-3-3-billion-in-2021/#:~:text=Remittance%20inflows%20exceeded%20US%243.3,Foreign%20Trade%2C%20Senator%20the%20Hon.>

(COVID-19) Dashboard is 22.3 percent.<sup>5</sup> This is not only due to the initial global inequity in vaccine distribution, but also due to an elevated level of vaccine hesitancy.<sup>6</sup>

Related to the pandemic, and on par with global trends, is Jamaica's slow, even reversal, in progress on delivering its SDGs, which became most apparent in 2021. Generally, SDG progress is only observed with a lag, and more data, indicative of major reversions in poverty reduction, access to education and health, have become available.

Unfortunately, elevated levels of (gender-based) violence continued during 2021, with Jamaica being the country with the highest intentional homicide rate in the world during the year. Despite these challenges, Jamaica has made noteworthy progress in the protection of human rights, evidenced by the passage of the Sexual Harassment Bill, important amendments to the Domestic Violence Act and progress on the backlog of court cases. A national child/teen helpline was also launched in 2021 to provide an opportunity for young people to receive support.

A final point worth noting is the increased commitment of the GoJ to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions in the run-up toward COP-26. Jamaica was the only country in the Caribbean to have increased its pledge and development has started on a National Adaptation Plan. During COP-26, it was announced that Jamaica will be a pilot country for the Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance, which will prove to be an important opportunity.

As evidenced in Jamaica, The Bahamas is also experiencing a slowing of SDG progress due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Data availability is restricted, especially with respect to basic economic indicators, such as unemployment. The recent election saw the Free National Movement winning 32 of 39 seats, a switch from the Progressive Liberal Party. It is also

noteworthy that the number of women in the House of Assembly increased from 13 to 18 percent.

Regarding COVID-19, in The Bahamas, the vaccination rate has remained steady at 40.2 percent, again due to an elevated level of vaccine hesitancy. One of the key factors in reversing this hesitancy has been international travel requirements, particularly those put in place by the United States requiring proof of vaccination status for entry.

The economy is the area where the greatest changes have taken place. 2020 marked the first recorded contraction in GDP growth since 2013, seeing a GDP growth rate of -23.8%. Despite these initial setbacks, reinvigorated tourism has helped the economy rebound with a 13.7 percent growth in 2021 and a projected growth of eight percent in 2022<sup>7</sup>.

The fiscal situation of The Bahamas has also been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The debt ratio has increased to over 100 percent of GDP (from 64 percent of GDP in 2019), though the government has made concerted efforts to rebuild fiscal buffers through tax collection enhancements. In addition to COVID-19, The Bahamas is also still recovering from the impact of the 2019 Hurricane Dorian. In July 2021, the islands most affected by Dorian were declared a Special Economic Recovery Zone, making them eligible for further tax relief to stimulate construction.

A final substantive issue in The Bahamas concerns the continued partnership in support of human rights and provision of protections for vulnerable populations such as migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. The UN and the Bahamian government continue to work closely to support the codification of practice and fulfilment of its commitments.

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5 <https://covid19.who.int/table>

6 <https://carpha.org/Portals/0/Publications/Summary%20Results%20of%20COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Acceptance%20Survey.pdf>

7 <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2022/05/06/The-Bahamas-2022-Article-IV-Consultation-Press-Release-Staff-Report-and-Statement-by-the-517631>

# CHAPTER 2:

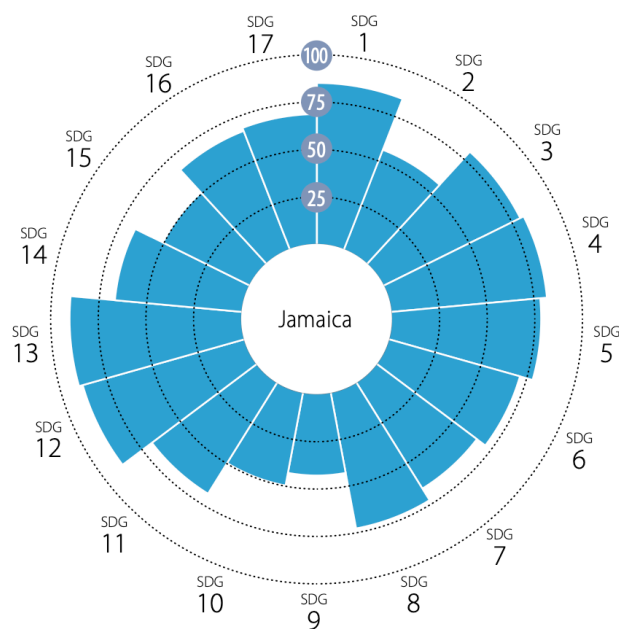
## UN socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic

### 2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

In 2021, the final year of the 2017-2021 MSDF, the UN in Jamaica focused on 14 of the 17 SDGs, except for 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities); 14 (Life below Water); and 15 (Life on Land). Specific focus was centred on SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being); SDG 5 (Gender Equality/Women's Empowerment); followed

by SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). The following is a summary of the output indicator achievements for Jamaica in 2021. See Annex II for the Summary of MSDF Country Implementation Plan (CIP) Indicators against baseline and targets.

FIGURE: AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG



Source: [Sustainable Development Report 2022 - Jamaica](#)



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY (PILLAR) 1: An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean



This priority area focused on increasing access to quality education and lifelong learning for enhanced employability and sustainable economic development as well as improving access to equitable social protection systems, quality services and sustainable economic opportunities. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020/2021, some indicators

including the full development of the EMIS and the MNE communication platform, were not realized, however an Education Sector Analysis and Expenditure report was completed and disseminated. In addition, the GoJ, in close coordination with UN agencies, led by UNICEF, began the development of the methodology to measure multidimensional poverty in 2021.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY (PILLAR) 2: A Healthy Caribbean



The emphasis in this priority area was to improve access to quality health care services and systems and strengthen laws, policies, and systems to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population. UN Jamaica increased the proportion of health facilities that provide access to adolescents according to standards of quality of care from less than one percent to 63 percent nationwide. Five additional hospitals were certified as baby friendly under the initiative for a total of seven. While the proportion

of people living with HIV retained in treatment has remained static since 2017, there was a considerable increase in the proportion of people living with HIV who are virally suppressed (60 percent in 2017 versus 72 percent in 2021). Several strategic plans and policies were developed to support a healthy lifestyle including a National Policy for Model of Care for NCDs, Plan of Action for the Elimination of Cervical Cancer, and the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Policy, which has been drafted and tabled for Parliament.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY (PILLAR) 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean



The focus under Priority 3 was to strengthen capacities of public policy and civil society organizations and reinforce equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety. Over 550 persons, (63 percent female) including justice sector workers, civil society groups and youth were trained in gender responsive social context awareness. Community level programmes were conducted to promote positive gender-responsive parenting as a key strategy to

prevent violence against children and family violence. Furthermore, six community-based organizations and nine schools were supported in the development of child protection policies, benefitting 15 communities. Under the Spotlight Initiative, close to 5000 community members increased their capacity to identify, prevent and/or report violence through a series of dedicated workshops held throughout the country.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY (PILLAR) 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean



Priority area 4 aimed to support the Government of Jamaica's adoption of policies and programmes for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and universal access to clean and sustainable energy as well as for the conservation, restoration and use of ecosystems and natural resources. Over 2021, 12 health facilities were retrofitted with renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient (EE) technologies. One upgraded health centre achieved the Smart 'Gold' standard for resilience and sustainability. In addition, there was a review and update of the

National Implementation Plan (NIP) for Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Jamaica which is awaiting Cabinet approval. The regulatory framework for renewable energy and energy efficiency was also enhanced through the updates to the Building, Mechanical and Property Maintenance Codes. This will enhance Jamaica's capacity to regulate and use a unified set of codes aligned to international standards by designers, regulators, and the building industry. The draft strategy/policy on Jamaica's National Cooling Strategy, is also awaiting Cabinet approval.



## 2.2 Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs

### PILLAR 1: An Inclusive, Equitable, and Prosperous Caribbean

#### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UNICEF, in collaboration with the World Bank (WB), concluded the Public Expenditure Review on the Education sector (PER). The PER examined if public spending on education in Jamaica is adequate, efficient, and equitable, focusing on spending alignment with national development priorities, the quality of expenditure and the implications for public finance management. The review found that in the short term, responding to COVID-19 will demand an additional JM\$2.4-3.9 billion annually, for one to two years. The PER also estimated that the cost of inaction on this investment to be JM\$828 billion, based on aggregated annual earning loss per student. The PER also examined opportunities for optimization which included an assessment of early childhood, primary, secondary, and tertiary education, including training institutions. Findings from the report were presented to the prime minister and the Cabinet in the last quarter of 2021.

Linkages were forged with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) as part of its social safety net support to vulnerable members of the population – women, persons with disabilities and students. UNICEF, in collaboration with the MLSS and Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), purchased produce from farmers to be included in food care packages for the vulnerable under the joint programme “Safeguarding and Protecting the Most Vulnerable: Enhancing Jamaica’s Shock Responsive Social Protection Mechanisms in support of Vulnerable Groups.” This is an additional market outlet beyond the life of the project for farmers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and a nutrition

boost for vulnerable populations. The key result from this intervention was the distribution of 1,000 food care packages to households, bolstering the diets of beneficiaries as restrictions on movement impacted accessibility to fresh and nutritious food. Produce was also procured from the female farmers in the initiative, providing farmers with a more secure market and over 1,000 vulnerable families with nutritional meal packages to offset the cost of food. To date, through this intervention, 615 farmers were linked to the Ministry’s farmer acquisition programme, where approximately 40 percent were rural female farmers. This programme also allowed the FAO to establish a concrete avenue for the sale of produce through a broad network of purveyors who then distributed directly to consumers, restaurants, small retailers, and other food vendors. One of the critical lessons learnt was the importance of a coordinated approach toward social protection. The programme was designed to safeguard and protect the country’s newly created at-risk and vulnerable by supporting local supply chains in the agricultural sector whilst ensuring that families who faced the highest food and nutrition vulnerability from the pandemic were protected. Additionally, the FAO undertook a ginger value chain and market analysis to provide an overall systematic analysis of actors operating in the ginger sub-sector. This analysis served as a strategic input into stakeholder planning exercises and development of the Ginger Upgrading Strategy and Action Plan. Two cold storage facilities were also established to aid in the preservation and storage of produce. This will continue to help reduce food spoilage and create opportunities for value added production.

Jamaica provides a good example for the region on using national social protection systems in response to a crisis. The World Food Programme (WFP) published a [case study on Shock- Responsive Social Protection](#) that captures important lessons learned and recommendations on areas that could be further

strengthened. Recommendations from this analysis have shaped the current partnership between the MLSS and WFP, particularly in the tailored technical assistance offered to further strengthen registration and targeting processes and delivery mechanisms for social protection in light of COVID-19, and for future crises. In 2021, WFP partnered with the MLSS to implement a nation-wide food distribution effort, to meet food needs of 40,000 Jamaicans as part of the national COVID-19 response programme. In addition to donating the food kits, valued at approximately USD\$1.1 million, WFP supported the MLSS with the planning and delivery of the food assistance across the island. To ensure that the MLSS was in the best position to implement the programme, WFP donated 30 tablets and trained 174 social workers, allowing for digital solutions to be used to enhance data management and planning activities. Digitalization of these processes for distribution of the food kits has already been useful in streamlining data management. WFP also trained 70 Housing, Opportunity, Production and Employment (HOPE) interns to conduct post distribution monitoring by gathering feedback from those who received food kits.

The changing demands in the education sector during the COVID-19 pandemic called for a paradigm shift. As such, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) strengthened teachers' capacity in blended and distance learning for pre-service and in-service teachers in Jamaica. This contributed to a reduction in learning skills gaps through supporting teachers' professional development in the delivery of innovative and ICT-enabled teaching and learning. In Jamaica, 14 Blackboard Certified Master Trainers and over 7,500 participants enrolled in the programme. Likewise, (UNESCO), along with Jamaican stakeholders such as the University of the West Indies (UWI) School of Education, reflected on education standards and lifelong learning. In this context, UNESCO strengthened capacities of Caribbean stakeholders by launching the Caribbean Futures of Education Webinar Series. This resulted in a Caribbean webinar technical report to feed into a global report with policy recommendations for Reimagining Education

- a framework for policymakers and development agencies by the International Commission for the Futures of Education. Furthermore, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continued its support of child friendly teaching and learning approaches at the Early Childhood Development (ECD) level via the scale up of the Irie Classroom Toolbox (ICT) through an ongoing partnership with the Early Childhood Commission (ECC). A Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) component was added to the ICT and strategic sections were converted to virtual formats to enable continuity in training and to ensure fidelity in materials and delivery of the content. All 96 ECC field staff were trained to lead ICT sessions and two cohorts of 420 participants each are on track to complete the training in the first half of 2022. Online professional development for school leaders continued. Close to 800 participants completed the Virtual Instructional Leadership (VIL) or Child Friendly Schools (CFS) courses offered by the National College for Educational Leadership (NCEL).

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) supported the Jamaica Household Workers Union (JHWU) with integrated innovative approaches and introduced new services aimed at (a) supporting the formalization of household workers, and (b) improving the technical capacities of its members and others in the sector. In particular, the union developed a plan for establishment and sustainability of its training centre for household workers. The JHWU secured a space for the centre, procured and installed data processing equipment and other appliances to meet the administrative and training requirements. The union also developed the capacity of a cadre of trainers who will provide early start-up training in housekeeping services using the nationally certified Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) curriculum. Additionally, the JHWU expanded its ability to improve existing and offer new services to old and new/potential members and has positioned itself as an influential contributor to and representative of its sector in the national labour market institutions, through training received from the MLSS in capturing and entering labour market information in the government's electronic databases.

Building on this, the JHWU also received training in the online processes for registration for (national insurance) NIS and other benefits. This equips the JHWU to deploy direct registration support services to its members and the wider public. The wider Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions (JCTU) also embarked on targeted communication and advocacy, directed at its members and key partners that address increased public understanding/ education on processes and benefits of formalization in Jamaica.

## TECHNICAL & POLICY SUPPORT

In 2021, UNICEF continued to harness the power of evidence to drive changes through evidence-based programming and advocacy. Several reports were completed including, a 'Situation Analysis of Children and Adolescents in Jamaica,' the 'Climate Landscape Analysis for Children and Persons with Disabilities,' and the 'Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Jamaican Children'. Furthermore, in partnership with the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), with financial support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the planning and fundraising for the next round of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) was

completed and fieldwork will start in the first quarter of 2022.

The 'Win-Win: Gender Equality Means Good Business in Jamaica' project produced various publications which sought to highlight the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to build the capacity of women owned enterprises to enable them to compete in private sector procurement opportunities. The 'Gender-Responsive Socioeconomic Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Business and Women Entrepreneurs in Jamaica' was conducted to reach businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and to enable companies to ensure that women whose autonomy are often impacted by loss of work) can continue their employment.

A webinar series was held by UN Women to enhance Women's Economic Empowerment in Jamaica. Resulting from this event, a partnership was formed with Portland Private Equity to provide funding to UN Women for future projects geared toward the empowerment of women in Jamaica and the region. The webinar series emphasized the business case and actions for corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and public sector stakeholders



to invest in women, highlighting real-life business practices and practical steps to enable inclusive economic growth and international trade. In addition, representatives from 30 companies received training in Gender-Responsive Procurement to increase their access to funding for their organisations. The Win-Win project also increased the number of signatories to the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), to a total of 60 companies to guide action and empower women in the workplace, marketplace, and community. WEPs signatories/partners also completed the Gender Gap Analysis Tool (GGAT) and developed their Gender Action Plans (GAPs) for their respective organisations, to ensure their activities are gender responsive, effective, and transformative, leading to the empowerment of women within their employ.

UNFPA supported National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in the region to implement high-quality modern censuses and to facilitate the strengthening of national capacities to ensure high-quality data production, analysis, utilization, and dissemination. NSOs from ten countries and territories (including Jamaica) participated in the capacity strengthening exercises to plan, prepare and conduct censuses through expert reviews of their census documents, instruments, methodologies, manuals of instructions, and knowledge sharing of lessons learnt from challenges faced by other NSOs in the region.

Policymakers were sensitized to the importance of having artificial intelligence plans and policy frameworks and recommendations in place for harnessing the technology for sustainable development. The main result was the [Artificial Intelligence Policy Roadmap](#) for the Caribbean in line with the Recommendations on the Ethics of AI. Partners in Jamaica have played a lead role in implementing the first phase of the initiative. Jamaica's Cultural and Creative Industry was assessed through an Economic Impact Assessment. Likewise, in the framework of the EU-UNESCO Transcultural programme, 117 cultural and creative professionals from Jamaica were trained to strengthen their economic opportunities. In addition, initial dialogue has been held to integrate a Jamaican training institution in the Caribbean Cultural

Training Hub.

The Jamaica Employers' Federation (JEF) launched and implemented advocacy activities through a public awareness campaign to build awareness and sensitization of the barriers to gender-equal entrepreneurship and the support services and solutions available to empower women business owners. JEF's campaign was based on key findings and recommendations from its report on Women's Entrepreneurship Development (WED). The WED Assessment Report for Jamaica is the first assessment of its kind undertaken for a Caribbean country. The report is based on the results of a Women's Entrepreneurship Survey conducted islandwide with 238 female entrepreneurs, conclusions from three focus group discussions and 25 key informant interviews. It provides a profile of woman entrepreneurs in Jamaica and captures the multitude of challenges they face in establishing and growing their businesses. The campaign raised nationwide awareness and sensitization through three public service announcements on radio, and printed public statements. It targeted several stakeholders including women-led enterprises, employers' networks, women entrepreneurs, multinational companies, via e-broadcast. The ILO supported JEF on the WED awareness campaign by developing its goals and key messages ensuring they were aligned to communicate the major challenges and opportunities faced by women entrepreneurs in Jamaica following the WED Assessment Report.

The GoJ through the MLSS operationalized a comprehensive, revised national action plan on Child Labour (CL). The technical capacity and tactical recommendations for addressing CL, of representatives on the inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral National Steering Committee on Child Labour (NASTOCL) have also improved and have contributed to partners incorporation of agreed measures aimed at addressing CL risk/vulnerability factors into various individual agency plans. These plans will inform budget submissions seeking to mobilise national resources for further implementation in the next fiscal year 2022-2023.



## PILLAR 2: A Healthy Caribbean

### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2021, the Fast-Track City Programme focused on strengthening partnerships to tackle HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the city. UNAIDS supported the Jamaican Network of Seropositives (JN+) to launch and pilot a programme to certify places of business, health, education, justice, entertainment, culture and sports, worship and otherwise as “Stigma Free Spaces” (SFS). SFSs are spaces that actively address stigma and discrimination, by publicly expressing the commitment of its management against stigma and discrimination; volunteer to undergo an external audit of internal policies to assess their compliance with human rights and equality indicators, and action on recommendations; sensitize staff on non-discrimination; and make human rights materials available in public spaces to raise awareness about human rights, non-discrimination, and access

to justice. The Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation became the first space to be certified as an SFS, and other entities have begun participating in the process. As part of leveraging the commitment of the city against stigma and discrimination and in support of the response, the city councillors approved a unanimous resolution declaring World AIDS Day (WAD) as a day of public interest, committing to commemorating the day every year with activities to address stigma and discrimination. In 2021, the city commemorated WAD by lighting buildings in red, and unveiling a mural titled “Living Positively with HIV” in downtown Kingston.

The UNICEF-supported Kingston Teen Hub provided critical HIV counselling and testing services to 780 young people, while attracting more than 3000 participants through its online activations. Construction of a second Teen Hub was initiated for completion by mid-2022 in St. Thomas, a parish with high rates of teen pregnancy. UNICEF has partnered with the National Family Planning Board (NFPB) to develop a youth “HIV Prevention Chatbot” which will

facilitate engagement and improve knowledge of HIV prevention along with referrals to counselling services for those in need. Working with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW), UNICEF is supporting a mentorship programme for Adolescents Living with HIV, with eight young peer mentors trained to facilitate support groups. Youth mental health remains a key priority and a mental health counselling chat line is now in testing phase as preparations for a national launch are underway.

The Partnership to Eliminate all forms of HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination in 2021 finalized the enabling environment and human rights operational plan, which stems from the national strategic plan on HIV. Additionally, the partnership launched its first annual report, and developed an online reporting dashboard to monitor progress in the operational plan's implementation. The partnership convened dialogue between members of parliament to explore the creation of a parliamentary caucus aimed at providing a permanent space for dialogue on critical laws and policies that impact the HIV response. The partnership provided technical support to civil society partners, the NFPB, and the Legal and Policy Review Committee, through the revision of a series of policy issues, strengthening NGOs human rights programming capacity, revising the Civil Society Forum's advocacy plan, and hosting a series of workshops and webinars on advocacy, communications, and political engagement. The partnership convened a national human rights retreat with all civil society and government partners working on HIV-related stigma and discrimination, to assess the progress made in 2021 and prioritize joint efforts for 2022.

The Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) National Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS) Technical Working Group was established to strengthen the intersectoral action in mental health and advocate for the inclusion of mental health interventions in emergencies and disaster management plans.

An FAO project provided technical support to 182 beneficiaries, including 22 schools, 80 home

gardeners, 30 youth farmers and 50 small-scale farmers across 25 communities in St. Elizabeth and Westmoreland. Of this total there are 60 improved gravity drip irrigation systems comprising 1000-gallon water tanks, water meters, drip tubes and mainlines only. Among the production items distributed, are an assortment of vegetable seeds, 250 tropical fruit trees, 100 plantain suckers, and 200 banana suckers. Additionally, a blended approach was used to build the capacity of beneficiaries in food security and climate resilience. Instructional videos, flyers, pamphlets, limited field visits and virtual platforms were used to share information among them. A WhatsApp group created jointly by RADA and 4-H Clubs was used to disseminate information on : construction of tank stands, establishing home gardens, etc. The Home Grown School Feeding Project (HGSFP) with the support of the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRO), , the Jamaica 4-H Clubs, and the principal and staff of the Newell High School in St. Elizabeth highlighted in a video presentation how locally grown food was cultivated and distributed to needy and vulnerable households and children during the pandemic.

PAHO supported advocacy for package labelling and the reduction of intakes of critical nutrients (sugars, sodium, and fats) in the diet of Jamaicans through collaboration with the Heart Foundation of Jamaica for a multi-platform communication campaign on 'The Right to Know (What's in the processed foods we purchase)' and 'We Support Front-of-package Warning Labels: We are on the side of health'. Advocacy based on the scientific evidence from research on the efficacy of octagonal front of package warning labels, conducted by PAHO/WHO with the University of Technology (U-TECH) and the MOHW.

Healthcare workers' capacity was enhanced with 266 community healthcare workers participating in the WHO/UNICEF Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Counselling: An integrated course training in-person and online; approximately 180 workers were sensitized to the National IYCF Policy and Strategic Plan; and 32 members of the National IYCF Committee (NIYCF) and regions were trained in the new Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) curriculum.



PAHO also worked closely with the MOHW in the country's COVID-19 response by strengthening of the routine national immunization programmes through the procurement of vaccines, cold chain equipment and supplies through the Vaccine Revolving Fund and the COVAX Mechanism, as well as the development of the Integrated Surveillance Information System and the Joint Reporting Format update. An automatic blood culture system was also installed at Jamaica's National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), replacing the time-consuming manual process. The automatic blood culture system has increased the detection sensibility and decreased the turnaround time for clinical results allowing better-informed decisions about the use of antimicrobials by clinicians.

To aid in the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis, it is important to leverage the power of community systems strengthening approaches as a part of improving the overall health systems.. The Mothers2Mothers (M2M) model engages women living with HIV as Community Mentor Mothers who work both at health facilities and go door-to-door. In Jamaica, the M2M approach was applied through the community-led organization, Jamaica Community of Positive Women (JCW+) where the results in 2021 included: (i) Capacity building and empowerment of Mentor Moms to counsel Women Living with HIV (WLHIV) on a variety of topics, including: self-efficacy, integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights, combination prevention, integrated family planning, linkage and retention in the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) cascade of care; (ii) Development of integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) information materials adapted with the Mentor Moms; (iii) Development of a virtual wellness tracker for reporting to JCW+ (confidential); (iv) Mobilization of Mentor Moms at all four regional health authorities (RHAs) to locate peers and hold sensitization sessions – 13 mentor moms have reached 100 WLHIV to date.

## TECHNICAL & POLICY SUPPORT

PAHO supported the government in the development

of the 'Guidelines for Health Data Protection' which is aligned with the government's Data Protection Act. Capacity building was held with the MOHW on results-based budgeting and review to improve current budgeting processes in the MOHW. This critical joint work with UNICEF and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will continue in 2022 to further strengthen health budgets aligned with SDGs. PAHO also supported the development of several health-related policies. The comprehensive Tobacco Control Bill of 2020 was presented and tabled for discussion in the Parliament. The MOHW anticipates the approved version of the legislation will keep the country's obligations to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The National Road Safety Policy and Action Plan was developed and submitted to the Ministry of Transport and Mining (MTM) for tabling before the Parliament. The policy and plan strengthens multi-sectoral collaborations, and updates the 2004 National Road Safety Policy, aligned to the UN Second Decade of Action on Road Safety. Additionally, the first National Strategy for Air Quality was developed, which provides a roadmap to reduce and control environmental risk factors for health.

Parliament approved the National Infant and Young Child Feeding Policy and Strategic Plan after several years of being drafted, and sensitization of critical stakeholders. The approval of the multisectoral policy provides a mechanism for coordination and integration of infant and young child feeding support and promotion in health care services, education programmes, community development initiatives and workplace policies and practices.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) launched the Caribbean Observatory on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in collaboration with the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation (CFPA), in the presence of 157 attendees from around the region, including government, civil society, and development partners. The launch of the observatory is critical as the mechanism is designed to support the improvement of quality analysis, disaggregated and comparable data on SRHR, to better inform laws, policies, and programmes, thereby

supporting more enabling environments for SRH for all communities, and the underserved. Furthermore, the observatory being hosted by the CFPA offers the advantage of increased quality engagement of CSOs through its strong regional presence. The Observatory also offers the opportunity for greater empowerment to conduct evidence-based advocacy.

To prevent sexually transmitted infections including HIV and mistimed pregnancies, UNFPA supported the NFPB in the development of the Comprehensive Condom and Lubricant Programme (CCLP) Strategy and Implementation Plan. This plan contributes to meeting UNAIDS global 2030 Fast Track 95-95-95 targets, the 2030 SDGs to end the epidemics of HIV/AIDS by 2030.

## PILLAR 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean

### CAPACITY BUILDING

Through the Spotlight Initiative, the capacity of national institutions including the Jamaica Social Investment Fund to develop citizen security interventions with gender-sensitive and responsive measures with a goal of preventing VAWG incidents was strengthened through the development of a Violence Against Women and Girls VAWG Prevention Framework. The capacity of national institutions to deliver coordinated essential services to survivors of GBV was also bolstered through the establishment of six Domestic Violence Intervention Centres in the parishes of St. Catherine, St. Mary, St. Ann, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, and Westmoreland. The centres were established at police stations in rural and urban communities to offer counselling and immediate care to victims, as well as provide access to justice services and referrals to legal and health services. Additionally, the Ministry of National Security (MNS') ability to predict and respond to violent incidents including family violence was strengthened through the establishment of an Early Warning Alert & Response System. The ability of 74 police personnel to conduct community

risk assessments, map hotspots and utilize response mechanisms including dispute resolution and conflict mediation was also strengthened during the period under review. Further, the MNS is better able to collect and analyse data through the expansion of the Jamaica Crime Observatory.

The coverage of Jamaica Injury Surveillance System was also expanded to three additional hospitals to enhance the ability of the government to collect quality VAWG data and perform high-level statistical analyses. The resilience of 55 female victims of VAWG to recover from family violence was also enhanced through the provision of training in product development, marketing strategies, financial planning, and management. UNDP is on track to support the economic independence of these survivors through the provision of grants, as well as business coaching and mentoring during the business start-up phase. Access to quality support services was increased for 32 victims of VAWG through the provision of psychosocial and counselling support. Training curricula on victim response were also developed for community level organizations to access online support in the administration of victim support counselling. A key achievement for Jamaica through the Spotlight Programme, is its partnership with the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS) of the UWI Mona through which a revision of FMS' pre-service training curriculum for medical doctors and nurses was done, to comprehensively integrate intimate partner violence (IPV) and VAWG and to develop new materials to prepare future medical professionals to identify cases of GBV and provide timely, appropriate, and quality essential services to GBV survivors. An advocacy plan has been developed to have the curriculum integrated by other tertiary education institutions; other faculties, such as the faculty of pharmacy, expressed interest in having GBV integrated in their curricula. This is an important innovation that will have a sustainable impact on the quality-of-service provision from the health sector since this kind of training was previously only offered to in-service health providers. UNFPA has also secured the buy-in of the MOHW on the development, refinement, and or/adaption of critical policy documents such as guidelines for the



Management of GBV in the Health Care Settings and an implementation plan and monitoring and evaluation framework to operationalize the Standard Operating Procedures for GBV, for the Treatment of Sexual Assault Victims in Health Facilities and for Child Abuse and related Clinical Guidelines.

UNICEF supported evidence-generation in the following areas during the reporting period: production and dissemination of child abuse reports statistical bulletins prepared by the National Children's Registry as well as a comprehensive system-wide evaluation on the child protection system in Jamaica. The final report will be available in early 2022. In addition, in 2021, UNICEF continued to advocate for family-based alternatives to institutional care. To this end, UNICEF partnered with the Child Protection and Family Services Agency to develop, through consultative

process, a National Strategic Framework for De-Institutionalization and Care Reform. This strategic framework has been endorsed by the government and will serve as a roadmap to set the strategic direction and pace of de-institutionalization in Jamaica. Critical support to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) continued in rolling out the National Child Diversion Programme, geared toward the conditional channelling of children in conflict with the law away from formal judicial proceedings and toward community-based support, such as counselling, treatment for drug abuse and social skills training. In 2021, 381 children benefited from the programme. Technical support was provided to the MNS to develop an Action Plan for Juvenile Correctional System Reform. In line with this action plan, UNICEF engaged a team of experts to develop SOPs and a training course to increase the knowledge and skills of correctional officers on child justice

matters and positive behaviour management. A partnership between MNS and the National Parenting Support Commission (NPSC) led to the training of just under 50 correctional staff on positive, non-violent parenting approaches. Through the resources of the Spotlight Initiative, the Monitoring and Evaluation framework of the National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence (NPACV) and its multi-sectoral coordination mechanism was strengthened.

UNFPA commissioned an assessment of the capacity of 21 community-led and civil society organizations (CLOs and CSOs) to respond to cases of sexual violence against the most marginalized populations, such as teenage mothers, sex workers, women, and girls from rural areas, and the LGBTIQ+ community. CSOs, and CLOs in particular, occupy a unique space in the landscape of GBV services, as they are at times viewed as more approachable than government-run facilities, particularly community led organizations, which often offer an additional level of comfort for survivors in the form of familiar community figures. The report titled “An imperative to leave no one behind supporting civil society to offer intersectional gender-based violence services to marginalized communities in Jamaica” was developed and shared in a public launch in the framework of 16 Days of Activism. This report is a critical advocacy tool for CSOs and members of marginalized communities. UNFPA also prioritized bringing services and systems to the survivor, and partnered with Eve for Life, a CSO serving adolescent mothers living with HIV and offering case management to survivors of GBV, to develop the Help Our People Emerge, H.O.P.E. app in Jamaica. H.O.P.E. is an android application that provides science-based, reliable, accurate information on the services available and how to access them; the app encourages legal literacy, human rights awareness, with a special focus on GBV. As an information tool developed with the input of survivors, its content also serves as a preventive role, by illustrating examples of problematic scenarios that may evolve into a form of GBV. Furthermore, through SI, 107 youth were trained in Theatre for Development methods to be used at community level to impact cultural norms, values and

beliefs related to family violence. Additionally, there was mobilization and sensitization of 90 community sports representatives on using sports as a peace-building tool. As part of male engagement activities under SI, 25 facilitators are currently being trained to facilitate ‘Man Up’ male engagement sessions in their communities. The National Parenting Support Commission was supported in designing a national parenting support website to promote positive parenting. This website will be rolled out in 2022. UNICEF worked in partnership with the WCJF to develop an evidence-informed parenting programme, tailored to the needs of adolescent mothers. This group-based programme has been piloted in Women’s Centre of Jamaica Foundation (WCJF) locations across the island reaching approximately 200 adolescent mothers and their children. The programme is geared toward ensuring that children enjoy a nurturing, supportive and safe relationship with their empowered parents. In collaboration with the Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA), UNFPA achieved the establishment and operationalization of one of three state-run shelters and a helpline for GBV survivors in Jamaica. As at October 2021, 12 survivors and 14 children have benefitted from the shelters with in-house services and proper referrals. The second shelter will begin receiving clients in January 2022. To support this initiative, a national shelter strategy and comprehensive guidelines with protocols and Standard Operating Procedures for the operationalization of the shelters have been developed. Regarding the GBV helpline, equipment was procured, and SOPs developed, which have been partially validated. UNFPA is in contact with national service providers to obtain a toll-free number.

During the period, there was an increase in the access to legal information and advice through the dissemination of Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials via print and broadcast (television and radio) media. The IECs covered topics including child rights, divorce, summons, protection order, probate etc. These materials will facilitate improved understanding and awareness of justice services. In addition, six customer service and information desks were equipped to facilitate dissemination of

legal information. UNESCO, in collaboration with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies - Regional Coordination Office (IGDS - RCO) of the UWI launched the [Caribbean Sheroes Initiative](#). This initiative aims to produce information and enhance the knowledge and skills of young people to promote gender equality to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. With an event themed “SHEROES: Women Activists Rising to the Challenge”, twelve civil society organisations were recognized as “Champions for Gender Equality” for their significant leadership and contribution to Jamaican society in advancing women’s rights and social justice. A [toolkit for Civil Society Organizations](#) was developed in cooperation with IGDS-RCO and the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO. It documents the practice and lessons learned by the CSOs that have worked to advance women’s rights and social justice. The first UNESCO Youth as Researchers (YAR) pilot was rolled out in Jamaica under the framework of the ‘Amplifying Youth Voice and Action to address Citizen Security and Safety’ (AYVA) project coordinated by UNDP. Over five months, UNESCO provided intensive training in basic social science methods, sessions on youth, peace, and security concepts, as well as mentoring and coaching for three youth groups that brought together participants ages 18-30 from Jamaica. The focus of the methodology is for young people to participate in research and enhance their capacities during the process. The participants addressed the following topics through their research projects: Government Programmes on Peace and Security; Youth-centric Policy-Design for Peace, Citizen Safety and Security; Youth Engagement and CSOs in Peace, and Citizen Safety and Security. UNESCO employs the methodology in Caribbean SIDS to ensure that youth are meaningfully engaged in knowledge production on peacebuilding and citizen security.

With UNICEF’s support, two CSOs that work in highly volatile communities, Peace Management Initiative and Fight for Peace, delivered youth development and violence prevention and interruption programmes. These programmes empowered 1,073 young people (758 boys and 315 girls) to build positive, non-violent and gender-equitable relationships with their peers,

and over 570 children from various age groups were reached with psychosocial support and therapeutic interventions. Children were treated through individual and group sessions to address the impact of trauma caused by the long-term, frequently cumulative effects of living with the fear of violence. UNICEF also supported C4D approaches, mainstreamed into violence prevention programming, and aimed at systematically raising awareness and providing opportunities for public debate and dialogue around non-violent social norms. The development and roll-out of mass and social media campaigns were conducted to promote gender equitable relationships, support alternatives to violent discipline and encourage reporting of violence and help-seeking behaviour. It is estimated that over 166,331 persons were reached by UNICEF-supported C4D initiatives aimed at challenging the social acceptance of violence against children, including gender-based violence. Community level programmes were also developed to promote positive gender-responsive parenting, as a key strategy to prevent violence against children as well as families. The work included positive parenting face-to-face and online training workshops, conducted by 21 trained master trainers and 94 community facilitators using evidence-informed parenting training curricula. During 2021, 964 caregivers living in highly volatile and disadvantaged communities, were reached. Regarding safer school efforts, whole school GBV sensitization interventions were delivered through online modalities in four primary and four secondary schools, impacting 1722 students (975 girls and 747 boys), their teachers, and parents.

## TECHNICAL & POLICY SUPPORT

During 2021, the policy and regulatory framework aimed at ending family and gender-based violence was strengthened through modifications to the scope and context of the Sexual Harassment Bill and recommended reforms to the Domestic Violence Act, Sexual Offences Act, Offences Against the Person Act and the Childcare and Protection Act. Furthermore, through technical support provided by the Multi Country Office (MCO), the capacity of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (Clarendon

and St Thomas municipalities) to mainstream in their programmes and interventions was strengthened through the development of VAWG Prevention Strategy for its Local Sustainable Development Plans (LSDPs).

UNFPA developed and published Guidelines to Integrate GBV and SRH Considerations in Emergency Shelters. The manual supports shelter managers, disaster management bodies and national gender machineries to reduce the risks of GBV and to integrate essential actions for the provision of lifesaving SRH and GBV response services in emergency shelters through improved planning and response actions. UNFPA also developed Guidelines for the Management of Safe Shelters for GBV Survivors: A survivor-centred approach. This resource offers support to specifically safe shelter managers, in the operationalization and management of safe shelters for GBV survivors. The focus is to support these spaces to become a safe accommodation for survivors of GBV, where they will receive a multisectoral range of services, as well as support in their healing and recovery through a survivor-centred approach, where survivors will be empowered and supported in the transition to living a life free of GBV. To ensure a survivor-centred approach

to GBV response, the Protocols for Multisectoral Response to Sexual Violence was revised and is now a draft Protocols for Multisectoral Response to Gender-based violence with accompanying SOPs for providers (health, social services, justice & policing), as well as a draft Training and Sensitization Plan. In 2021, the UNFPA supported the MOJ in developing Protocols for Parish Justice Centres on Service Delivery for GBV. UNFPA simultaneously supported Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ) in offering legal support services to survivors of GBV, with an intersectoral approach. A handbook to guide legal service providers on adopting a survivor-centred approach in service delivery was also produced.

A Special Ministerial Conference for Specific Legislation for Persons with Disabilities in the Caribbean was organized by the UWI Centre for Disability Studies (UWICDS) and the CARICOM Special Rapporteur on Disability, in partnership with UNESCO and in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Digicel Foundation. Two training sessions for youth and youth-led organizations, media students, and practitioners were conducted on “Understanding and Meaningfully Including Persons



with Disabilities in Society” aimed to raise awareness of the need to advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in Caribbean society. More than 110 youth from the Caribbean participated. Targeted training for journalists and media workers was also conducted, in cooperation with the Caribbean Broadcasting Union. This line of action is critical considering Jamaica’s commitments in the framework of the Disabilities Act.

## PILLAR 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean

### CAPACITY BUILDING

Several activities were utilised to further build climate resilience in the Mount Airy communities. These activities included Community Climate Risk Assessment, training in Climate Resilience and Adaptation, Land Husbandry training for ecosystem resilience, On-farm Water Management Knowledge Product development and the construction of a water reservoir to support improved and expanded irrigation deliveries. The Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for Mount Airy was developed with key partners and stakeholder involvement as well as a Farmers’ Climate Change Manual and Workbook was developed as sustainable capacity building tools to serve both local communities and resilience building partners which serve local farmers. A Land Husbandry Training manual was also developed to support training and capacity building in land management. The manual emphasized the link between climate change and soil degradation and the process of selecting appropriate land husbandry treatments for specific situations. A 240,000 gallon water reservoir was constructed in the Mount Airy community as part of efforts to strengthen the climate resilience of farmers, and enhance their ability to increase their income by cultivating crops during dry periods when produce prices are higher.

A farm water management system was designed, and 25 micro-drip irrigation structures were established collaboratively with 35 farmers benefiting directly. The project increased the number of irrigable hectares for increased food production and revenue. In addition, a farmer field school curriculum on water harvesting

and gravity drip irrigation system was developed, and farmers were trained on the installation, operation, and maintenance of the irrigation systems. The irrigation systems are now being fully operated and managed by the farmers. Farmers were reporting significant increases in farm productivity and return on their investment due to improved access to irrigation water and more efficient crop water use.

Additional efforts by UNDP were directed at reducing Jamaica’s public sector energy bill through the introduction of RE and improvement in energy efficiency at three health facilities. This included the installation of LED lighting at three health facilities (May Pen, Savanna-la-Mar, and Black River). Further, two grid tied PV systems (83kW and 13kW) were installed and commissioned at the National Chest Hospital and Sir John Golding Rehabilitation Centre. One hundred and sixty LED bulbs were donated to Western Regional Authority to assist with the retrofitting of health centres.

The regulatory framework for renewable energy and energy efficiency was also enhanced through the updates to the Building, Mechanical and Property Maintenance Codes. This will enhance the capacity of Jamaica to regulate and use a unified set of codes aligned to international standards by designers, regulators, and the building industry. Further, the institutional capacity to support renewable energy and energy efficiency ecosystem in Jamaica was strengthened. Specifically, the capacity of 42 energy service providers, government officials and financial institutions has been increased in energy financing and measurement and verification of savings. In 2021 the business enabling environment of the development minerals sector was strengthened through the enhancement of financial institutions’ capacity to facilitate business development services including the development of quarry plans and the use of reserve estimation and valorisation as collateral. Additionally, the financial literacy of 73 artisanal small and medium-sized entrepreneurs was enhanced in enterprise development and management in the areas of reserve estimation and valorisation resulting in improved financial and technical mining skills.

The capacity of tertiary level public institutions to deliver industry-relevant development minerals curricula was also strengthened through the development and upscaling of two courses. A Bachelor of Science degree in Mines and Quarry Management was developed to provide operators in the mining and quarry management sector with the requisite academic qualifications to operate at the management level. Additionally, a four-month certification course in quarry management was upscaled to an online delivery modality. This course will enhance self-regulation in the quarrying industry by enhancing the capacity of quarry managers to comply with the legal requirements of quarrying; execute occupational health and safety and environmental best practices.

Access to potable water was increased through the rehabilitation of two communal water harvesting systems in the communities of Mount Airy and Culloden in Northern Clarendon. Hand-washing stations were also installed in four schools in Northern Clarendon (Bunkers Hill Primary, Alston Primary and Infant, Anderson Town Primary, Darlow Basic School). Additionally, access to education, specifically online learning, was enhanced through the establishment and equipping of a virtual learning centre in West Kingston. Food security was also enhanced through the establishment of 350 backyard gardens in Clarendon. The policy and regulatory framework for the Water Resources Management sector of Jamaica was strengthened through the completion of a legislative review and gap analysis. The review sought to address the need for a more holistic and coordinated approach in water management (including sanitation), particularly the legislative and policy elements.

The capacity of the GoJ to monitor the importation of HFCs and ensuring compliance with the Kigali Amendment, particularly with respect to the measurement of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents was strengthened. Specifically, the development of a licensing and quota framework which will allow the government to determine the parameters around which HFCs can be imported including the quantity of imports, requirements, and process to access a license and

any restrictions associated with the license was completed. Additionally, a baseline assessment diagnostic which will seek to enhance the capacity of the GOJ to determine the consumption level, distribution, and use of HFCs was completed. This assessment will assist the country to determine the rate of importation and calculate the amount of HFC currently in the country, which is a critical element that could impact the phasing down timeline.

Through its Natural Science Programme, UNESCO, in partnership with the ODPEM and the International Tsunami Information Center has contributed to promoting sustainable management of ocean and coastal resources in Jamaica by supporting the development of a Tsunami Ready Community in Old Harbour. Likewise, UNESCO has launched the Caribbean Risk and Disaster Management Youth Platform (CARIDIMA), to promote the sharing of knowledge, good practices and experiences between Caribbean SIDS and take relevant coordinated action for climate adaptation and mitigation. DRR preparedness, recovery, and resilience in the culture sector in Jamaica were strengthened with the development of the 'National Strategy and Plan of Action for Disaster Resilience and Recovery for Jamaica's Culture Sector.' Pilot initiatives to better tailor the formulation of the national strategy for Jamaica's Culture Sector have been successfully conducted. As an overall result, the capacities of culture, disaster and administration sectors in Jamaica have been strengthened, and the reinforcement of inter-sectorial networks has been promoted. As an example, disaster risk preparedness and response has been successfully included in the Blue and John Crow Mountain World Heritage Site management plan.

## TECHNICAL & POLICY SUPPORT

The review and update of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Jamaica was completed in 2021[1]. The NIP presents comprehensive, context specific information on POP management practices and their uses. It will facilitate environmentally sound management of POPs in Jamaica thus advancing the



country's goal of enhancing human and environmental health.

The regional Caribbean Cooling Initiative project (C-COOL) resulted in the development of Jamaica's National Cooling Strategy (JNCS), through a multi-stakeholder working group who ensured that the strategy was relevant and appropriate for the country's context. The final draft of the JNCS was submitted in March 2021 and is awaiting Cabinet approval. If enabled, this strategy could result in the implementation of legislation that would influence compliance among the cooling market sector with Jamaica's goals for energy efficiency use and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The C-COOL Initiative has supported Jamaica's trifold ambition of energy efficiency, cooling, and climate change mitigation. JNCS embodies the intent and practice of the GoJ toward increasing energy efficiency at all levels, mitigation of climate change and protection of the ozone layer, in the local and international context. The JNCS's 14 recommended actions for Jamaica for efficient technology, alternatives, standards, financing, capacity building, procurement, monitoring, and enforcement will significantly advance the country's objectives. The refrigeration and air conditioning market and consumers of cooling services, have also migrated toward improvements in energy-efficient cooling and are amenable to utilising refrigerants and technologies that are less negatively impactful on the environment while reducing electricity costs and demand on the grid.

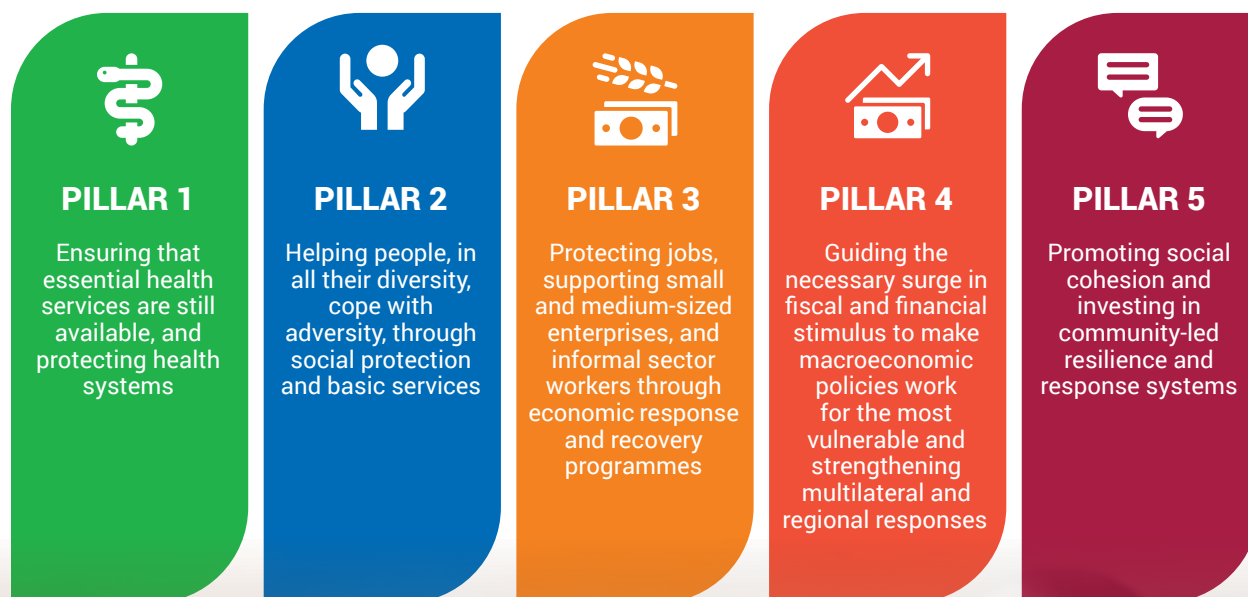
WFP worked with the GoJ through ODPEM, PIOJ and MLSS to strengthen emergency preparedness and response efforts in the country. Jamaica benefits from the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS), developed by WFP, which is used for tracking the receipt and distribution of relief items. WFP's technical assistance in Jamaica includes training in the use of the CLS and how to improve warehouse management in times of emergency. Laptops and other computer equipment to support using the CLS were donated to the MLSS.

During this period, UNEP enhanced the legislative framework in Jamaica to reduce and manage plastic marine litter from land-based activities in an integrated and environmentally sound manner and demonstrate the potential of plastic waste prevention and sound management while catalysing action for the reduction of plastic marine litter generated by land-based activities. However, there were delays due to COVID-19 and a reduction in funding support resulting in intervention having to be condensed. A Green Economy Investment Strategy, Action Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was developed, and a Green Economy Investment Virtual Policy Dialogue session held. The Framework was submitted to the MHURECC and will be submitted to Cabinet for review and instructions for implementation. This project supported Rae Town's installation of a Plastic Recycling Project of a gully rack/trap (innovative waste containment mechanism) to be installed in the main gully on the project site.



## Socio-Economic and Response Recovery Plan

The COVID-19 Socio-economic Response and Recovery Plan (SRRP) for Jamaica localized the UN framework for immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 which sets out urgent socio-economic support to countries and societies in the face of the pandemic. The SRRP was designed to operationalize a gender- and human rights-based multidimensional approach to respond, recover and build back better from the impacts of COVID-19 in critical areas. The Plan is organized by five streams of focus – or pillars of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, providing an integrated support package to protect the needs and rights of people living under the duress of the pandemic, with particular focus on the most vulnerable groups, and people who are at risk of being left behind. The five streams/pillars of work that constitute this support are :



In 2021, agencies continued to support the GoJ in the management of COVID-19 with a variety of interventions.

## PILLAR 1: Health First

### Protecting Health Services and Systems During the Crisis



CORE ESSENTIAL  
HEALTH  
SERVICES



HEALTH SECTOR  
POLICIES  
IMPLEMENTED



MULTISECTORAL  
MENTAL HEALTH  
AND PSYCHOSOCIAL  
SUPPORT

- ✓ PAHO/WHO provided technical cooperation on vaccine procurement and delivery systems with COVAX facility, manufacturers and Governments as well as support in the procurement of surveillance, response and life-saving medical and diagnostic equipment and supplies for isolation and quarantine facilities, including at Alternative Medical Care sites.
- ✓ Procurement of cold chain equipment and high-quality technical support was provided by UNICEF with support from the Government of Japan, A total of US\$500,000 of supplies to enhance the cold chain infrastructure in the island, including: 80 refrigerators, 585 vaccine carriers, 370 cold boxes, 280 Remote Temperature monitoring devices, and two Toyota Land Cruisers.
- ✓ Jamaica improved its capacities to above average for the Caribbean based on the key recommendations following an assessment tool used to examine core capacity requirements at designated airports, ports, and ground crossings. PAHO/WHO has also delivered continuous technical assistance for enhanced IHR core capacities with multi-disciplinary and multisectoral participation in chemical and radiation event planning, updated legislation and border health security, with upgraded infrastructure at Points of Entry in the context of COVID-19.
- ✓ Technical support was provided for the ongoing revision of travel measures, surveillance, and response were part of the suite of areas supported.
- ✓ Support was provided to facilities in addressing recommendations on hazard vulnerability for 15 facilities through the Pilot Project for Climate Resilience (PPCR) within the Climate Investment Fund.
- ✓ Technical assistance to Jamaica, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands to update health emergency and disaster risk management policies and plans, based on the findings of the Annual Monitoring Questionnaire for the Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- ✓ Enhancement of the resilience of 9 health facilities to ensure continuity of service delivery before, during and after hazards. In addition, one upgraded health centre achieved the Smart 'gold' standard for resilience and sustainability.
- ✓ GoJ was supported to develop and implement a state-of-the-art digital vaccine information management platform and it was deployed in hospitals, health centres and vaccination sites. The digital platform system also issued digital COVID 19 vaccination certificates.

## PILLAR 2: Protecting People

### Social Protection and Basic Services



**ESTABLISHED  
SHELTERS FOR  
VICTIMS OF  
VIOLENCE**



**PROVIDED  
OPTIONS FOR  
WOMEN TO  
REPORT ABUSE**



**RAISED AWARENESS  
THROUGH  
ADVOCACY AND  
CAMPAIGNS**

- ✔ UN Women through the SI trained 34 women from approximately ten CSOs and 15 government institutions in the collection of prevalence and administrative data. These trainings were conducted taking into consideration the response required for the COVID-19 pandemic which saw an increase in GBV in Jamaica.
- ✔ The Spotlight Initiative Small Grants facility supported the Jamaica Household Workers Union by implementing advocacy and awareness campaigns on COVID-19 which led to a vaccination blitz for household workers to combat vaccine hesitancy, as well as a Sexual Harassment workshop to promote understanding of sexual harassment in the workplace and its impact.
- ✔ A helpline for victims of GBV was established.
- ✔ Support was also provided in the development of their Referral Pathway for GBV victims, to ensure that they have access to relevant support structures to lessen the impact on their daily life.
- ✔ The capacity of women and girls to identify GBV risk mitigation strategies and community leaders' skills in first line response was enhanced. Specifically, some 30 survivors of GBV received psychosocial support and training. Relatedly, 20 mentors received training in case management.
- ✔ Business continuity processes of 5 small businesses were also strengthened through the provision of grants. The resilience of vulnerable populations including the elderly, the disabled, and women affected by GBV who were impacted by COVID-19 has been enhanced through the provision of 200 nutrition and hygiene packages.
- ✔ Working through local NGOs, UN Women provided support to 1,227 PLHIV by providing medical supplies and PPEs to members of the community. Additionally, the UN Women also provided income support grants to support 21 small businesses focusing on farming, chicken rearing and shop keeping.
- ✔ 24 PLHIV with comorbidities were able to access diagnostic testing. This testing provided the basis for further investigation regarding specific health issues to improve the treatment and outcome of various health complications. Furthermore, 5 communication messages were developed highlighting the increased vulnerability to COVID-19 for PLHIV.
- ✔ Access to education was also enhanced through the establishment and equipping of a virtual learning centre in West Kingston to enhance the online learning environment. Additionally, 181 tablets were provided to students to further enhance access to learning systems.
- ✔ UNICEF contributed to the improvement of school water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities as per COVID-19 safety protocols, impacting 31 rural schools and resulting in 6,500 students gaining access to water and hand-washing facilities in their schools.
- ✔ A Return to Happiness (RTH) training manual was completed and the first cohort of the virtual RTH staged, involving close to 500 teachers.
- ✔ Inclusion of children with disability in the recovery efforts was another key area of focus. The Accessible Digital Textbook (ADT) project was successfully launched, and a sensitization webinar held with close to 100 educators.

## PILLAR 3: Economic Response and Recovery:

### Protecting Jobs, Small And Medium Sized Enterprises, And Vulnerable Workers In The Informal Economy



SUPPORTED  
MIGRANT  
WORKERS



ASSISTED  
WOMEN  
ENTREPRENEURS



PROTECTED  
THE RIGHTS OF  
WORKERS WITH  
DISABILITIES

- ✔ Ten women business owners (agri-entrepreneurs) received financial and business development support to scale up their businesses, in partnership with the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce (MIIC) and MCGES, under the Women Entrepreneurship Project.
- ✔ Through partnership with UDC, 573 cash stipends were provided to women craft vendors across 6 craft markets in Kingston, Dunn's River, Ocho Rios, Pineapple, Success, and Rutland. These stipends promoted women's empowerment and autonomy, in the form of relief assistance, increasing their ability to contribute to households in Jamaica.
- ✔ UN Women continues to contribute to the gender-lens investment market in Jamaica through the "Partnership for Gender Lens Investment in the Caribbean between UN Women and Portland Private Equity" which is supported by the 2X Collaborative. The cooperation seeks to increase innovative financing options for gender equality and capacities across the private sector and governments to ensure women owned or led businesses have access to capital to develop and scale their businesses.
- ✔ Nine artisan and private sector mining operators' entrepreneurial skills and access to finance was enhanced through the provision of grants to enable business continuity.



## PILLAR 4: Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration



MACRO POLICIES  
DEVELOPED FOR AT RISK  
POPULATIONS



SOCIO - ECONOMIC  
IMPACT ASSESSMENTS  
CONDUCTED

- ✓ UN Women produced the 'Summary Status of Women and Men in Covid Report: The Impacts of COVID-19' which highlighted the differential and varied impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and men, as well as an analysis of governments' response through a gender lens. Additionally, there was also a Gender Analysis of the Impact of Covid-19 on Women and Men in 12 countries in the Caribbean Region.
- ✓ UNDP strengthened the decision-making capacity of the governments of the Bahamas and Jamaica to respond to the pandemic through the development of two Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) of COVID-19 with related policy options. It articulates sectoral policy recommendations and updated programmatic opportunities for the Government and UN agencies to advance the COVID-19 response.



## PILLAR 5: Social Cohesion and Community Resilience



EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS  
SUPPORTED WITH  
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY  
BUILDING



COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZATIONS  
CAPACITATED FOR  
RESILIENCE



SOCIAL DIALOGUE  
SPACES FACILITATED  
FOR AT RISK  
POPULATIONS

- ✓ Seven Community Based Organizations working on women's issues/GBV/discrimination received grants under the Spotlight Initiative. Activities were geared toward support for the expansion of technical substantive capacity of groups working on innovative programmes to end VAWG, especially those groups focusing on VAWG experienced by women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. These include Mona Social Services, Jamaica Association for the Deaf, JN+, Stand Up for Jamaica, Jamaica Household Workers Union, Young Women and Men of Purpose, Women's Empowerment for Change (WE-Change).
- ✓ With respect to JAD, training manuals were developed. A position paper was also drafted to propose policy to guide the management of GBV and family violence in relation to deaf persons (indicator 5.2).
- ✓ Care packages for households with children with disabilities targeted under the PATH programme, Early Stimulation Programme (ESP) or the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities (JCPD) was provided. Goods were procured for food packages at a cost of approximately US\$30,200 to support 1,000 households with children. Approximately 62 percent of the children whose families benefited from the food packages were males.



## 2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The UN in Jamaica has continued to increase partnerships for SDG acceleration nationally and has established a stronger working relationship with the Government of Jamaica, private sector, academia, civil society, IDPs and youth in 2021.

### The Jamaican Economy Panel (JEP)

The Jamaican Economy Panel is an initiative, bringing together a selection of economic and public policy experts. The JEP is an initiative of the UNRCO and the Department of Economics at the UWI Mona. JEP brings together experts from academia, the private sector, and international institutions for monthly discussions on relevant economic and public policy related issues. All panellists, resident and abroad, either work in Jamaica or work on issues relevant to the Jamaican economy. The inaugural JEP discussion focused on the Jamaican economy in relation to its COVID-19 response and recovery. In 2021, the team of experts collaborated to produce seven discussion papers on several topics including the SDGs, vaccine hesitancy, carbon pricing, violence against women and children, and the impact of migration in Jamaica.

### UN-IDP Coordination Group

A 2019 report produced by the UN MCO Review Team highlighted the feedback from development partners that the UN is uniquely positioned with—as an impartial, non-political entity—to help further attract and coordinate collaboration between governments and other key stakeholders. In response to this, the UNRCO established two International Development Partner (IDP) Groups in Jamaica and The Bahamas which has been a significant step forward in consolidating and coordinating development efforts between national and regional stakeholders in both countries. The IDP Groups are co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and a rotating counterpart from among the resident development partners and comprises representatives from the UN, the diplomatic corps, and multilateral agencies. The overarching objective of these groups is to maintain ongoing dialogue to determine opportunities to advance shared development priorities through the provision of coordinated technical and/or financial assistance. To ensure that national priorities are considered in the process of ongoing discussions, the IDP groups, along with members of the United Nations Coordination Team (UNCT) have sought to engage with cabinet ministers along with their senior technical experts as appropriate.





## Spotlight Initiative

The accomplishments of the Spotlight Initiative are attributed to the multi-sectoral partnerships undertaken by the programme. Strong collaborations with the government, civil society, the European Union, and the private sector have been pivotal in ensuring the rights of women and girls to live free from violence are protected, promoted, and upheld.

The Spotlight Initiative, in its second year of implementation, established significant collaborations with over 25 partners to help advance gender equality in Jamaica. One such successful partnership was brokered with the creative sector in 2021. The partnership saw the Jamaica Film and Television Association (JAFTA), mobilising members to apply for Spotlight grants to produce short documentary or docu-drama-type films addressing Spotlight Jamaica's key areas of focus – VAWG, Sexual Abuse of the Girl Child and Vulnerable Groups. As a result of this partnership,

more than 80 members of the community attended a sensitization session and four teams of filmmakers, along with the survivors whose stories they told, received additional guidance and psychosocial support to enable them to address the issue of GBV. These films have aired nationally and have sparked ongoing conversations around their respective themes.

Furthermore, the Spotlight Initiative initiated a GBV Partners Forum in August 2021. The discussion focused on the further partnership possibilities to support the government's GBV response and explored innovative ways to approach the problem more comprehensively in Jamaica. Along with the EU and UN Agencies, the session was supported by the IDP, Global Affairs Canada, and USAID. Follow-up meetings are planned for early 2022.



## 2021 Partnership Forum

UN Jamaica has also focused on strengthening its convenor role in the country through the conduct of targeted partner platforms and events aimed at bringing a variety of stakeholders together to engage in dialogue and collective training on how to strengthen partnership networks. The UNCT hosted a three-day virtual Partnership Forum in 2021, bringing together over 3000 participants and over 50 presenters, panellists, and facilitators to focus on development challenges and solutions in Jamaica. The forum culminated in a UN DESA led training session for a select group of government, private sector, and civil society representatives. As part of the planning and hosting of this Forum, UN Jamaica engaged key partners, such as the GoJ, Kingston Creative, PSOJ, GK Foundation and the Sandals Foundation. The Partnership Forum will serve as a staple initiative for partner engagement, mapping, planning and solutions generation.

## Joint SDG Fund Joint Programmes

The Component 1 joint programme,(JP) funded by the Joint SDG Fund, brought together the Ministries of Education, Health and Finance and UN entities to build local capacity and adopt key recommendations for strengthening Jamaica's results-based budgeting programme. As part of this joint programme, and through the collective efforts of the participating UN agencies, the UN has provided both technical and financial assistance through a series of training and retooling sessions with over 150 technocrats across the island from these ministries. The training and support are intended to contribute to the longer-term objectives of the Public Financial Management Reform Action Plan and the Change Management Plan of the Government. The Component 1 JP has also supported a review and analysis of Jamaica's Medium-Term Results Based Budgeting (MTRBB) implementation, in keeping with the principles of Results Based Budgeting. Guided by the findings of the Inception Report, the joint programme facilitated consultations and a sensitization session with RBB

implementation management partners, including the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, the Office of the Cabinet, the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Ministry of Education and Youth, and the Planning Institute of Jamaica.

Furthermore, the development of several new proposals for the Joint SDG Fund in 2021 (some of which are awaiting approval and the disbursement of funds) have led to ongoing dialogue with the Planning Institute of Jamaica, and relevant line ministries, as well as private sector representatives regarding catalytic actions and prioritization for SDG achievement in country. This has enabled the UNCT to work more closely together to offer integrated policy and programme support toward financing the 2030 Agenda.

## 2021 Youth Consultative Conference (YCC)

The rights and priorities of youth span across all 17 SDGs and therefore ensuring appropriate and dedicated investments in youth development, within the framework of Vision 2030 Jamaica and the SDGs, is crucial to the achievement of the goals and targets. UN Jamaica has therefore sought to systematically strengthen its engagement with youth to integrate them further into the UN programme planning and development processes. As such, on the tenth anniversary of the 'I Believe' Initiative (IBI), an arm of the Governor General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE), proudly supported the hosting of the 2021 Youth Consultative Conference (YCC). The YCC highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on youth and the implementation of Jamaica's Vision 2030 while also inspiring youth and duty bearers to support a recovery that builds a better Jamaica for all. UN Jamaica as the main partner of the 2021 Youth Consultative Conference and together with the GGPE co-created a programme focused on the role, rights, and priorities of young people in COVID-19 recovery efforts. The conference encompassed the overarching theme "A Decade of Action: Building a Resilient Recovery for and with Jamaica's Youth."

This initiative also saw the engagement of the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake. This initiative further led to the development of a Call to Action which was shared publicly and presented to the state minister in the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Information, Robert Nesta Morgan in November 2021. The objective of the Call to Action is to primarily present the collective demands of Jamaica's youth in a bid to "Build a resilient path to recovery" with and for them. UNDP, in partnership with UNESCO, piloted an intensive and inclusive youth engagement strategy through the "Amplifying Youth Voice & Action to address Citizen Security & Safety" (AYVA) project. This pilot project sought to evaluate and support mechanisms to enable youth participation in decision-making related to their own safety and security. Additionally, the project enabled youth to design and implement demand-driven interventions in their communities to improve citizen security and safety.

As part of this initiative, ten youth groups were selected for grant funding, through a competitive process, to develop projects and participate in a capacity development incubator. This incubator was integral in building capacity, maximizing opportunities, mitigating risks, and unleashing potential of the youth-led organisations. It was also designed to further facilitate support for youth to develop sustainable strategies to maintain their project's results through partnership.

The research component of the project, led by UNESCO, sought to build the capacity of youth in research methodologies focused on government programmes, policy design & civil society organizations, and their role in peace, security, and youth engagement.

The AYVA project was developed through consultation with youth organizations and youth leaders across Jamaica and was also led and implemented by youth focal points in collaboration with the MNS and Rise Life Management which facilitated the financial and project management support services to the youth groups. Technical oversight was also provided by PIOJ, the MOEYI and PSOJ.



## Post- COP-26 National Media Event

Following the gathering of world leaders in November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland to discuss and tackle the issue of climate change, the UN partnered with the GoJ and UK High Commission to host a post-COP-26 event to build on the momentum and facilitate communication of high-level outcomes, commitments made by the Government of Jamaica and next steps. This event has set the stage for further events to be held in 2022, such as multi-stakeholder deep-dive workshops into the targets, programmes, processes, challenges, and funding.

## 2.4 Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness & efficiency

Through the development and implementation of joint programmes, the UN system in Jamaica has fostered more coherent and strategic engagement with the government based on its national priorities. These joint programme activities have also enhanced integrated SDG strategies in the area of programming. Operationally these programmes have supported the UNCT to avoid duplication of efforts and has led to greater programmatic synergies among agencies as they seek to focus on common results based on the pillars of the cooperation framework. As the joint programmes and activities are further developed, the UNCT will continue to work toward reducing transaction costs in terms of joint operational support.

In 2021, the UNCT and RCO focused heavily on joint and collaborative action, most notably at the regional level in the drafting and finalization of the Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

(MSDCF), the second iteration of the pioneering regional cooperation framework for the Caribbean. The MSDCF covers 22 countries and territories in the region and their host governments. It required extensive collaboration between UN agencies and their governments, as well as rigorous consultation with regional organizations, the private sector, development partners, civil society organizations and other stakeholders. The MSDCF outlines the UN agency contributions to reach the SDGs in an integrated and multidimensional manner, identifying synergies, with a commitment to the principle of leaving no one behind, to promoting human rights, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE), resilience, and sustainability and addressing the effects of COVID-19. To address such vulnerabilities the UN and the governments in the region are committing to contribute to significant structural changes in the economies and governance systems of the countries, toward:



- ✔ Economic resilience and shared prosperity
- ✔ Equality and well-being
- ✔ Resilience to climate change and shocks, and sustainable natural resource management
- ✔ Peace, safety, justice, and the rule of law

At the national level, the UNCT formulated four Priority Thematic Groups during 2021 to align these four regional pillars with the findings of the national level analyses such as the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and continue strategic discussion and analysis across agencies. These groups were led by key UN agencies, with support from the RCO, to define how to operationalize the MSDCF focus areas at the country level through prioritization and SDG acceleration exercises which could then feed into agency specific country strategies. Seven agency programme strategies were developed (country and regional) in 2021 for UNESCO, UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, and FAO, all of which have been aligned with the MSDCF at the outcome framework level.

Commitment to interagency coordination was also evidenced in the development of seven additional joint programmes over 2021, two of which focused on South-South cooperation via the UN-India Fund, benefitting teams in Jamaica and The Bahamas, respectively. These programmes had a collective potential funding envelope of US\$11 million.

Concerted efforts have been made to expand the strategic policy and preparatory support to host governments on key UN exercises and events such as the Voluntary National Review, 2021 Food Systems Summit, SDG Investment Fair, UN High Level Meeting on AIDS, SIDS Specific Side Event at 2021 High Level Political Forum and COP-26. The UNCT also invested heavily in the provision of strategic analysis seen in the finalization of the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 and Policy Options in Jamaica, Educational, Social and Psychological effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Children, Common Country Analysis and Update for MCO serviced countries<sup>8</sup> The UNCT also contributed to UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers (Jamaica), Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Report for The Bahamas, Sub-regional Human Rights

Programme led by Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), passage of Jamaica's Sexual Harassment Bill, adoption of the Disabilities Act Regulations in Jamaica, and development of the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) for SIDS.

The UNCT has also sought to expand its engagement with key partners in the civil and private sectors via advocacy and communication efforts. In addition to advocacy efforts by individual agencies, the UNCT in Jamaica also engaged collectively in events recognizing:

- ✔ International Women's Day
- ✔ World Health Day
- ✔ World AIDS Day
- ✔ National Youth Consultation Conference
- ✔ UN Day
- ✔ Spotlight Short Film Festival
- ✔ 16 Days of Activism
- ✔ Human Rights Day
- ✔ COP-26 pre- and post-events

In addition to the above, two separate IDP fora have been established in Jamaica and The Bahamas respectively that provide a platform for the UN agencies and international development partners in each country to share development efforts to further coordinate and consolidate gains. These fora also engage with key government representatives to ensure continuous alignment between government focus and UN/IDP actions.

In Jamaica, the US\$19 million COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan (SRRP) focused on providing the government UN support and technical assistance primarily under the Health First and Protecting Pillars. The SERP plan concluded in 2021 as the new MSDCF and its associated CIP integrated the medium- and long-term SRRP aspects into the strategy/framework. In addition, the UNCT facilitated the delivery of over 100,000 vaccines to The Bahamas and over one million vaccines delivered to Jamaica, with close to 100,000 [Pfizer] vaccine doses, received through the COVAX Facility to continue the country's ongoing vaccination process. Support

was also provided to the MOHW in COVID vaccine management digital platform and e-certificate, as well as strengthening cold-chain management. As part of its COVID-19 support to staff during 2021 the UNCT established its own Duty of Care initiative to provide UN staff with 24-hour support and access to medical professionals in the context of the pandemic as well as effectively managing local vaccine deployment for UN staff and dependents.

Operationally, Jamaica continued its process of moving toward collective operational efficiency with the implementation of the fully online Business Operations

Strategy (BOS) in anticipation of its review/revision in 2022 as per corporate guidelines. The Operations Management Team (OMT) of the UNCT went through considerable turnover, with many long-standing members departing in 2021. Despite this, the OMT has managed to continue to deliver on collective results such as the establishment of two interagency SOPs, drafting of three LTAs to be finalized in Q1 of 2022 and the continued consolidation of UN agencies into the UN House. 2021 also saw two additional agencies move to the UN House with the goal of at least two more to follow in 2022.



## 2.5 Evaluation and Lessons Learned

An end-of-cycle evaluation of the Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) 2017-2021, was conducted October 2020 to May 2021. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess performance against MSDF 2017-2021 framework, determine the extent to which the UN MSDF and coordination mechanisms contributed to advance and streamline the results and determine how the UNCT contributed to the intended outcomes of the MSDF. The evaluation analysed the MSDF's relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, and overall sustainability.

The MSDF was found to be relevant as its priorities were aligned with regional and national priorities and it was formulated in an inclusive and participatory process with a range of government and non-governmental stakeholders. In relation to the MSDFs effectiveness, a systematic assessment of progress made by the UN system based on the MSDF indicators was not possible because the results framework was incomplete. MSDF baselines and targets were missing, the quality of the indicators in the results framework were deemed inadequate, and relevant data in the respective countries/territories were lacking. The cooperation framework was not considered very efficient as the coordination infrastructure that underpins the MSDF did not function effectively. While a number of coordination structures were put in place at the beginning of the MSDF cycle, they were subsequently discontinued or not operationally maintained. Additional findings of the evaluation related to sustainability, noting the limited availability of development finance in the region. Another set of challenges identified related to sustainability, included the limited number of UN projects that get replicated or scaled up to be fully integrated into national structures, the limited exchange of technical expertise and knowledge as there is no platform or structured approach for how this knowledge exchange should take place, as well as a lack of a well-organized system of documentation and communication/dissemination of information to stakeholders within the UN system.

Recommendations for future cooperation frameworks included the establishment of a comprehensive monitoring system at the regional level under the coordination of the RCOs, as well as an evaluation of the results and impact of its work more frequently, especially joint outcome evaluations focused on one sector or cross-agency programmes. In addition, the UN should also strengthen its work in support of data collection, analysis and use by partners at the national and sub-national levels and foster a culture of evidence use in policymaking. With regards to developing a more comprehensive monitoring system, it was recommended that the UN system should strengthen its data infrastructure, including the coordination and data aggregation mechanisms across the region as well as improve data collection and analysis capabilities. Furthermore, there is a need for strengthening Inter-agency cooperation between the UN and the respective governments to establish strong foundations for a permanent and efficient functioning of these coordination structures. At the regional level, the UN should consider strengthening the effectiveness of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) and Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM). Improved planning would promote a higher level of awareness among agency staff about the UN reform agenda and its implications on the ground, and in that context the relationship between the MSDF and CIPs. The UN should also organize better communication among agencies on planning matters. Joint implementation in partnership with the government, the UNCT should identify and institutionalize incentives for the agencies to engage in joint programmes. Due to its cross-cutting and normative nature, the UN system should also cooperate more effectively at the regional level around gender mainstreaming, not only regarding advocacy and awareness-raising, but also by supporting jointly the development of gender-sensitive policies and legislation, implementation of international commitments, economic empowerment, and political participation of women.

## 2.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

### 2.6.2. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND QUALITY OF FUNDING

#### Financial Overview

During the 2021 reporting period, UN Jamaica spent approximately US\$11.3 million across the four Cooperation Framework strategic priorities as outlined in Table 1 where the distribution of resources is outlined. The UN reported an overall delivery rate of 72 percent. Differences however were seen in expenditure across the outcome areas. Although the outcome related to Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean had the greatest number of resources available, it also had lowest delivery rate (59 percent), while the outcomes Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean and A Healthy Caribbean (with the least number of available resources) were able to fully spend its resources over the year. The table below describes the financial resources budgeted and expended in 2021.

TABLE 1: FINANCIAL RESOURCE BY OUTCOME TABLE, 2021\*

MSDF Outcome Area	Total Required Resources (US\$)	Available Resources (US\$)	Expenditures (US\$)	Delivery Rate (expenditure/available resources)
Outcome 1: <b>Inclusive, Equitable &amp; Prosperous Caribbean</b>	\$10,169,119	\$6,874,652	\$4,049,839	59%
Outcome 2: <b>A Healthy Caribbean</b>	\$2,402,406	\$2,411,951	\$2,165,158	90%
Outcome 3: <b>A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean</b>	\$4,072,175	\$2,384,418	\$2,498,055	100%
Outcome 4: <b>Sustainable &amp; Resilient Caribbean</b>	\$5,447,986	\$4,126,416	\$2,641,496	64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,091,688</b>	<b>\$15,797,438</b>	<b>\$11,355,148</b>	<b>72%</b>

\*Data in this table are not fully reflective of resources available or delivered due to incomplete data provision at the time of publishing.

#### Resource Mobilization

Several resource mobilization efforts took place in 2021. The RCO supported UNCT efforts in the development of seven proposals from various donors including the SDG fund, the India - UN Development Partnership Fund and SALIENT. The UNCT was able to secure two SDG Fund projects. The first 'Building Back Equal through Innovative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment' supporting The Bahamas and Bermuda- the first joint programme in both countries, with a funding envelope of over US\$1.8m. UN Women lead this two-year project, with activities rolled out in conjunction with FAO, UNESCO, and UNDP. The second SDG funded programme is the 'Modernizing the Social Protection System in Jamaica' project supported by UNICEF, UN Women and WFP with an overall funding package of over US\$1.1m. Both of the projects will be implemented in 2022. In addition, a SALIENT Scoping mission was conducted February to July 2021 with the aim of securing funding for a project "Reducing Small Arms and Light



Weapons in Jamaica'. The scoping mission was funded by SALIENT for US\$145k , with an overall project funding envelope of US\$500k. This activity will also be implemented in 2022. Two proposals however did not receive funding ('Green Shark Challenge' and 'Financing the SDGs: Jamaica Innovative Impact Investment Fund (Financing the SDGs) (Component 2)', however funding will continue to be sought for these projects. One proposal, the "Rural Development Project" valued at US\$1 m , with funding from the India-UN Development Partnership, remains outstanding. Overall, the RCO supported the mobilization of over US\$3m in 2021.

TABLE 2: RESOURCES MOBILIZED AND PIPELINE PROJECTS, 2021

APPROVED PROJECTS				
Project Title	UN Partners	Country	Donor	Funding Allocation (USD)
Building Back Equal through Innovative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	UNWOMEN; FAO; UNESCO; UNDP	The Bahamas, Bermuda	SDG FUND	\$1,823,069
Modernizing the Social Protection System in Jamaica	UNICEF; UN WOMEN; WFP	Jamaica	SDG FUND	\$1,154,100
SALIENT Scoping Mission	UNDP; UNLIREC; RCO; UNODC; UNESCO	Jamaica	SALIENT	\$145,147
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$3,122,316</b>

PIPELINE PROJECTS			
Project Title	UN Partners	Country	Funding Allocation (USD)
Financing the SDGs: Jamaica Innovative Impact Investment Fund (Financing the SDGs) (Component 2)	UNDP; UNICEF	Jamaica	\$8,099,531
Green Shark Challenge	UNDP; UNICEF	Jamaica	\$250,000
Rural Development Project	FAO	Jamaica	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$9,349,531</b>

## Socio-Economic Response and Recovery (SERP) Plan

In 2021, the UN continued its support of the government in its strategies and interventions to combat COVID-19. Several activities were completed across all five pillars with some agencies repurposing funds from MSDF planned programming. The total expenditure equalled US\$1m with an overall 55 percent delivery rate (see Table 1). Figure 1 reflects the expenditures by pillar, with the 'Health First', followed by 'Protecting People' and 'Economic Response and Recovery' pillar. The greatest amount of funds (\$1m) were mobilized from the Government of Japan by UNICEF to support the 'Health First' pillar. Although most activities took place under Pillar 1 (Health First), incomplete financial reporting shows only a 39 percent delivery rate. However, the delivery rates under the remaining pillars ranged between 89 percent to 100 percent reflected in Table 3.

### SERP EXPENDITURE (USD), 2021

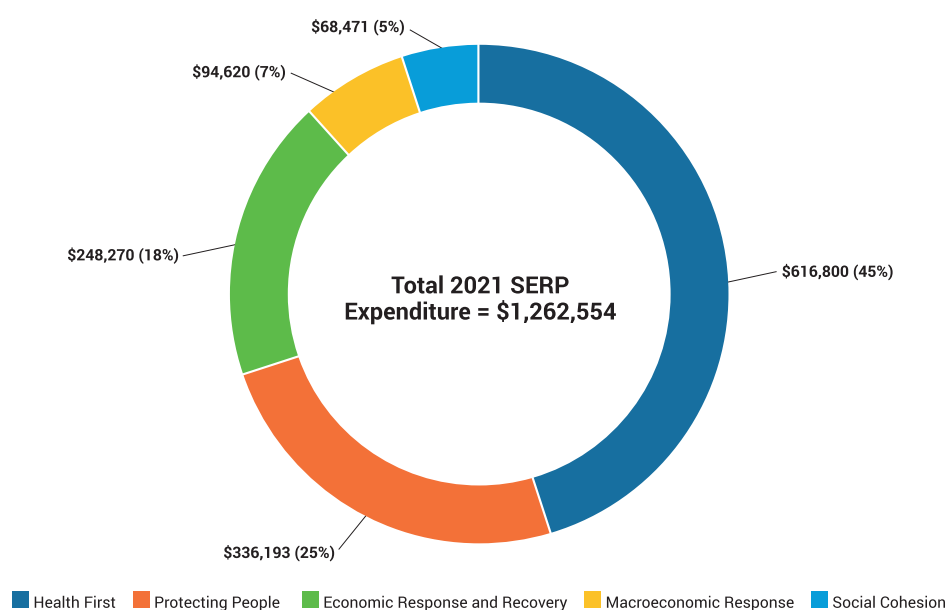


TABLE 3: SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN, 2021 (SERP)\*

SERP Pillars	Total Required Resources (USD)	Available Resources (USD)	Expenditures (USD)	Delivery Rate (expenditure/available resources)
Pillar 1: <b>Health First</b>	\$1,601,000	\$1,601,000	\$616,800	39%
Pillar 2: <b>Protecting People</b>	\$387,547	\$337,547	\$336,193	99.6%
Pillar 3: <b>Economic Response and Recovery</b>	\$353,270	\$278,270	\$248,270	89.2%
Pillar 4: <b>Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration</b>	\$94,620	\$94,620	\$94,620	100%
Pillar 5: <b>Social Cohesion and Community Resilience</b>	\$68,471	\$68,471	\$68,471	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,403,908</b>	<b>\$2,278,908</b>	<b>\$1,262,554</b>	<b>55%</b>

\*Data in this table are not fully reflective of resources available or delivered due to incomplete data by UN Agencies

# CHAPTER 3:

## UNCT key focus for the next year (2022)

The key focus for 2022 will be the operationalization of the MSDCF outlined in the above sections, as UNCTs will need to interpret this regional strategy to ensure an effective and relevant service offer to specific member states via the CIPs. Due to the regional nature of the MSDCF, Country Implementation plans with country specific outputs will be developed during the first quarter of 2022, followed by a UNCT configuration exercise. As part of that process the RCO in Jamaica is supporting the UNCT with strategic analysis on alignment, level of ambition, relevancy, transformational value of the collective UN service offer of all AFP plans, strategies, and programmes against the MSDCF outcome framework and its pre-conditions as developed in the MSDCF.

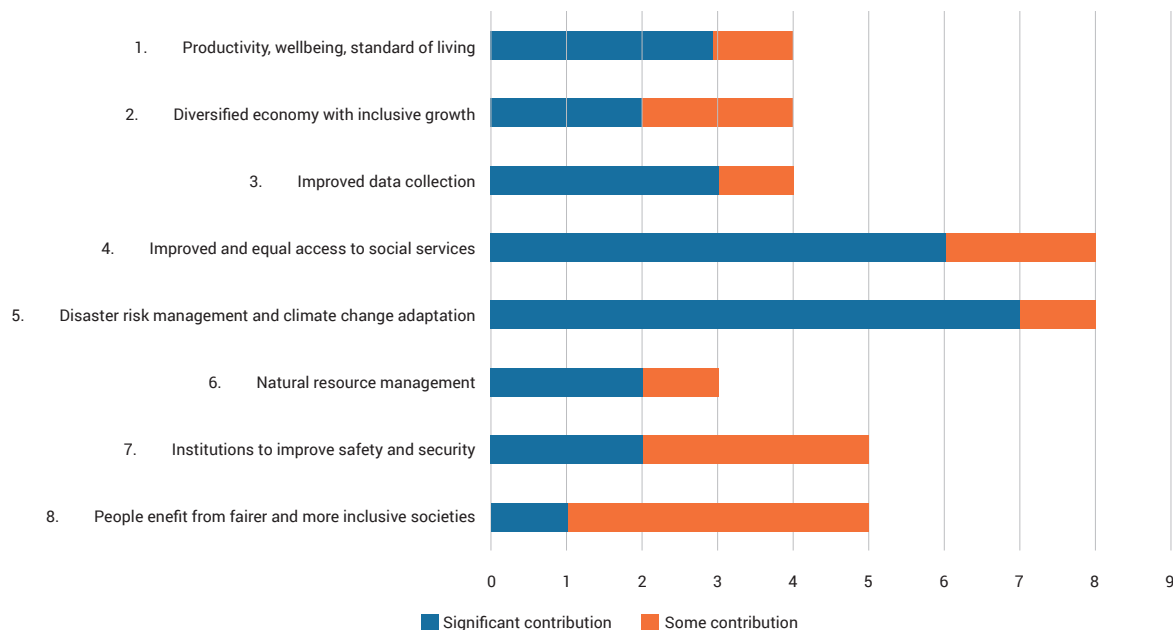
This mapping was conducted in three broad steps:

1. Agencies requested to identify their related strategic/CPD outputs under each MSDCF outcome and in relation to the Theory of Change, (ToC) preconditions, document Leave no one behind (LNOB) target groups in their programmes and identify accelerators and describe innovative strategic approaches
2. RCO internally conducted assessment to determine the following:
  - ✓ Alignment of agency outputs to Theory of Change preconditions identified in the MSDCF
  - ✓ Scale, ambition, transformative potential and level of urgency of agency contributions
  - ✓ Overall UN contribution in addressing ToC preconditions and LNOB coverage
  - ✓ Consistency with the Samoa Pathway, Decade of Action Recommendations and National Development Plan
3. RCO then supported agencies by identifying potential interventions/opportunities and gaps for acceleration and proposing strategies for partnerships, advocacy, and resource mobilization

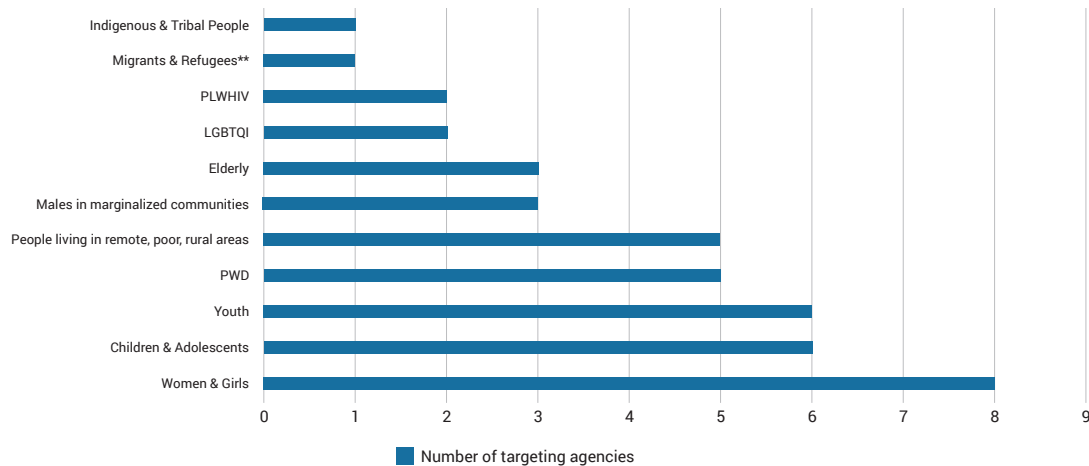


This analysis provided an objective assessment of the relevance, strategic value and coherence of the UNCT service offer relative to the outcomes outlined in the MSDCF

CONCENTRATION OF AGENCIES CONTRIBUTING PER OUTCOME



LNOB GROUPS\*: NUMBER OF TARGETING AGENCIES



\* data analyzed for Jamaica only \*\* Migrants in the JA context refer to involuntarily returned migrants

Based on this analysis, five key findings emerged when the offering of the MSDCF framework and the AFP service are compared:

- ✔ Greater urgency, ambition and innovation are needed” to achieve to outcomes of the MSDCF and accelerate progress towards the SDGS
- ✔ Planning instruments need to be further aligned (CCA: structural/Institutional; AFPs: programmatic)
- ✔ Timelines need to be better aligned to ensure greater coherence (CPDs and MCSDF developed in parallel)
- ✔ Incentives for joint programming and integrative planning need to be strengthened
- ✔ Resources currently available are not adequate to meet the expected MSDCF goals

This analysis has been key to framing the 2022-2023 CIP, determining the most effective country configuration as well as the upcoming UNCT configuration exercise as well as for future partnership and resource mobilization efforts in ensuring that future joint programming development has a clear link to the gaps identified in this on-going analysis. While the process is still on-going, strategies to address them are already being developed and adjusted as UNCT discussions continue:

#### **RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

- ✔ Work with existing/new/non-traditional donors to identify new potential sources
- ✔ Identify new and innovative lines of funding for specific projects
- ✔ Seek opportunities for joint programme funding in relation to MSDCF gaps

#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

- ✔ Increase engagement of academic partners (i.e., Jamaican Economy Panel; UWI etc.)
- ✔ Organization of new fora for engagement
- ✔ Intensification of partnership with government, private sector, and other stakeholders

#### **ADVOCACY**

- ✔ Support government to articulate their needs (MTF development and SDG Dashboard)
- ✔ Enter long-term policy discussions with agencies to expand on existing plans
- ✔ Continue to advocate for UN joint programmes

# ANNEX I

## UN Supported Guidelines, Plans and Frameworks

<b>FAO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ginger Upgrading Strategy and Action Plan (GUSAP)</li> <li>• A Farmers' Climate Change Manual and Workbook</li> <li>• Land Husbandry Training manual</li> <li>• The policy and regulatory framework for the Water Resources Management sector</li> </ul>
<b>UNAIDS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling Environment and Human Rights Operational Plan (related to the National Strategic Plan on HIV)</li> <li>• National Strategic Plan for advancing information systems for health in Jamaica, informed by the maturity model assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>PAHO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for Health Data Protection (aligned with the Government Data Protection Act.)</li> <li>• Comprehensive Tobacco Control Bill of 2020</li> <li>• National Road Safety Policy and Action Plan</li> <li>• First National Strategy for Air Quality</li> </ul>
<b>PAHO/UNICEF</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Infant and Young Child Feeding Policy and Strategic plan</li> </ul>
<b>UNDP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for Mount Airy</li> <li>• Socioeconomic Impact Assessment for Jamaica</li> <li>• Socioeconomic Impact Assessment for Bahamas</li> </ul>
<b>UN Women</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender-Responsive Socioeconomic Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Business and Women Entrepreneurs in Jamaica</li> </ul>
<b>ILO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on Women's Entrepreneurship Development for Jamaica</li> </ul>
<b>UNFPA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transgender Health Strategy</li> <li>• Comprehensive Condom and Lubricant Program (CCLP) Strategy and Implementation Plan.</li> <li>• Guidelines to Integrate GBV and SRH Considerations in Emergency Shelters.</li> <li>• Guidelines for the Management of Safe Shelters for GBV Survivors: A survivor-centred approach.</li> <li>• Protocols for Multisectoral Response to Gender-based violence with accompanying SOPs for providers (health, social services, justice &amp; policing), and draft Training and Sensitization Plan</li> <li>• Sub-regional Programme Document for the Caribbean (2022-2026)</li> <li>• Caribbean Observatory on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights</li> </ul>
<b>UNICEF</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Situation Analysis of Children and Adolescents in Jamaica</li> <li>• The Climate Landscape Analysis for Children and Persons with Disabilities</li> <li>• Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Jamaican Children</li> </ul>
<b>UNEP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Green Economy Investment Strategy, Action Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework</li> </ul>
<b>WFP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Case Study in Shock Responsive Social Protection</li> </ul>

# ANNEX II

## CIP Output Indicator Matrix

### 2017-2021

PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Pillar 1: Inclusive and Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean</b>				
<b>Output 1.1.1 MoEYI has improved institutional capacity to perform its stewardship role in ensuring the availability of and demand for quality early childhood, primary, secondary, and tertiary education services.</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Extent to which Education Management Information System (EMIS) available and operational</b> (Baseline: EMIS Not available 2019); Target: EMIS available and operational) (2021)	<b>Baseline:</b> EMIS not developed Source: UNESCO	<b>2021:</b> EMIS partially developed; [reprioritized due to COVID-19 pandemic] Source: UNESCO
		<b>Indicator: Extent to which Education sector analysis and expenditure report available and disseminated</b> (Baseline: Education Sector analysis and expenditure report not available (2019); Target: Education Sector analysis and expenditure report available and disseminated (2021)	<b>Baseline:</b> Education Sector analysis and expenditure report not available Source: UNICEF	2021 Education Sector Analysis & Expenditure report: completed and disseminated  <a href="https://www.unicef.org/jamaica/reports/public-expenditure-review-education-sector-jamaica">https://www.unicef.org/jamaica/reports/public-expenditure-review-education-sector-jamaica</a> ; <a href="https://www.unicef.org/jamaica/press-releases/government-jamaica-launches-public-expenditure-review-education-sector-jamaica">https://www.unicef.org/jamaica/press-releases/government-jamaica-launches-public-expenditure-review-education-sector-jamaica</a>  Source: UNICEF
<b>Output: 1.1.2 Improved alignment between the education standards, ICTs, vocational training system and the industry to promote lifelong learning and economic sustainability</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Extent to which an Inclusive school-to-work transition policy available</b> (Baseline: No school-to-work transition policy available (2018); Target: School-to-work transition policy available (2021)	<b>Baseline:</b> No school-to-work transition policy available Source: UNESCO	<b>2021:</b> No school to work policy available [reprioritized due to COVID-19 pandemic] Source: UNESCO

PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Output 1.2.1 Government of Jamaica has strengthened capacities to effectively deliver social protection services, ensure decent working conditions and promote job creation</b>				
<b>Indicator: Extent to which a Multi-National Enterprises (MNE) communication platform operational</b>		<b>Baseline:</b> No dialogue platform <b>Data Source:</b> ILO	<b>2021:</b> No dialogue platform developed [reprioritized due to COVID-19 pandemic] <b>Data Source:</b> ILO	
Baseline: No dialogue platform active to support MNE advisory capacity (2018); Target: MNE dialogue platform operational (2021)				
<b>Output 1.2.2 Policy makers and programme managers have better access to quality population data and information for evidence-based decision-making</b>				
<b>Indicator: Extent to which GoJ is able to measure multi-dimensional poverty for men, women, and children;</b> Baseline: income-based poverty data available only (2018); Target: Multidimensional poverty index developed (2021)		<b>Baseline:</b> income-based poverty data available only <b>Source:</b> UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> Project initiated in 2021; methodology currently being developed <b>Source:</b> UNICEF	
<b>PILLAR: A Healthy Caribbean</b>				
<b>Output 2.1.1. National capacity to integrate and improve access to sexual and reproductive health services targeting underserved populations increased</b>				
<b>Indicator: Proportion of Health Facilities nationwide that provide services to adolescents according to the standards of quality of care.</b> (Baseline: <1% (2018); Target: 50% (2019); 70% (2021))		<b>Baseline:</b> <1% <b>Source:</b> UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> 63% (44 of 70 targeted health facilities) <b>Source:</b> UNICEF	
<b>Output 2.1.2 Health and community systems strengthened to reduce new HIV infections, AIDS related deaths and discrimination toward PLHIV and Key Populations</b>				
<b>Indicator 1: Proportion of people living with HIV retained treatment;</b> Baseline: 53% (2018) Target: 90% (2021)		<b>Baseline:</b> 53% <b>Source:</b> UNAIDS	<b>2021:</b> 52% <b>Source:</b> UNAIDS	
<b>Indicator 2: Proportion of people living with HIV virally suppressed</b> Baseline: 60% (2018) Target: 90% (2021)		<b>Baseline:</b> 60% <b>Source:</b> UNAIDS	<b>2021:</b> 72% <b>Source:</b> UNAIDS	



PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Output 2.2.1 National legislative and policy framework to address NCDs strengthened</b>				
	<b>Indicator:</b> The extent to which NCD prevention and control policies, standards, strategies, plans, and legislation are completed (Baseline: Natl Strategic Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, 2013-2018 (2018); Target: NCD policy completed (2021)		<b>2017: Baseline</b> Natl Strategic Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases  Source: PAHO	<b>2021: Partially completed:</b> Completed policies: The National Policy for Model of Care for NCDs; The Plan of Action for the Elimination of Cervical Cancer; Comprehensive Tobacco control (drafted and tabled for discussion in the Parliament); Plan for Eye Health and Nutritional Standards (in progress).  Source: PAHO/WHO
<b>Output 2.2.2 Strengthened institutional capacity for delivery of quality health services for new-borns and their caregivers</b>				
	<b>Indicator1: Number of Hospitals certified as Baby Friendly under BFHI</b>  Baseline (2018) -2 hospitals (Alexandria and Princess Margaret) Target: 10 (2021)		<b>Baseline: 2</b>  Source: UNICEF	<b>2021: 7 hospitals</b>  Source: UNICEF
	<b>Indicator2: Status of completion policy actions and programmes that address obesity in infants and children (under 5)</b> (Baseline - National Study on Childhood Obesity not started, Communication for Development (C4D) campaign on breastfeeding not started (2018); Target: National Study on Childhood Obesity Completed (2020), C4D campaign on breastfeeding developed (2021)		<b>Baseline:</b> National Study on Childhood Obesity not started, (C4D) campaign on breastfeeding not started  Source: UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> activities have not been implemented  Source: UNICEF
<b>Pillar 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean</b>				
<b>Output 3.1.1 National systems to collect, analyse and use data and evidence are able to regularly monitor and report on the situation of women and children and inform legal reform, policies, and budgets</b>				
	<b>Indicator: Extent to which Jamaica routinely collects and publishes key types of administrative data on violence, exploitation, and abuse, disaggregated by age and sex</b> (Baseline: 2015 Report on Children and Violence) Target: Annual Report disseminated (2018, 2019, 2020)		<b>Baseline:</b> 2015 Report on Children and Violence  Source: UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> Report on Children and Violence not finalized. National Children's Registry strengthened to release bulletins for 2016-18  Source: UNICEF

PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Output 3.1.2 National capacity of rule of law and national human rights institutions and systems strengthened to expand access to justice and combat discrimination, with a focus on women, children, and other marginalised groups</b>				
	<b>Indicator: Number of court/justice service personnel trained in gender and child responsiveness</b> Baseline: 0 (2018); Target: 200 (60//% female) (2020)		<b>2017 Baseline 0</b> Source: UNDP	<b>2021:</b> Target achieved in 2019; 556 (UNDP 166 males, 290 females) (63% female) justice sector workers, civil society groups and youth trained in gender responsive social context awareness; UNICEF -100; No additional trainings held in 2021
<b>Output 3.2.1 Increased capacity of national and community institutions to prevent and treat violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect</b>				
	<b>Indicator: Number of persons in key institutions with the capacity to respond to interpersonal and community violence (disaggregated by gender)</b> Baseline: No persons trained (2019) Target: 4500 (2021)		<b>Baseline 0</b> Source: UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> 115; UNICEF engaged in community level programmes to promote positive gender-responsive parenting, as a key strategy to prevent violence against children and family violence. 21 trained master trainers and 94 community facilitators using evidence-informed parenting training curricula.
	<b>Indicator: Number of targeted communities and agencies with revised policies and plans to promote and protect the rights of children.</b> Baseline: 0 (2018) Target: 10 Communities (2020)		<b>Baseline 0</b> Source: UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> 15 (Target achieved)  At community level, UNICEF supported the development of child protection policies of six community-based organizations and nine schools.  Source: UNICEF
<b>Output 3.2.2. Increased capacity of right holders and duty bearers to foster positive practices and norms to protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect</b>				
	<b>Indicator: Number of target population at risk who are reached by UN supported programmes aimed at increasing the capacity of children, women, and men to identify, prevent and/or report violence</b> (Baseline: 0; (2019) Target:1,000 (2020);		<b>Baseline: 0</b> Source: UNICEF	<b>2021:</b> 4779 (Total Spotlight) (cumulative)  Source: UNICEF

PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Pillar 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean</b>				
<b>Output 4.1.1. Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted to achieve increased energy efficiency and access to renewable/alternative energy</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Number of public institutions retrofitted with RE and EE technologies (disaggregated by institution type)</b> Baseline: 0 (2018); Target: 3(2020)	<b>2017:</b> 0 Source: UNDP/PAHO	<b>2021:</b> 12 health facilities retrofitted. One upgraded health centre achieved the Smart 'gold' standard for resilience and sustainability. Target achieved in 2020  Data Source: PAHO/WHO
		<b>Indicator: Number of surveys, assessments, business models, guidelines, policies to guide the implementation RE and EE technologies</b> Baseline: 100 Target: 160	<b>Baseline:</b> 100 Source: UNDP	<b>2021:</b> The regulatory framework for renewable energy and energy efficiency was also enhanced through the updates to the Building, Mechanical and Property Maintenance Codes. This will enhance the capacity of Jamaica to regulate and use a unified set of codes aligned to international standards by designers, regulators, and the building industry  Source: UNDP
<b>Output 4.1.2 Initiatives for sustainable management of chemicals and waste strengthened</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Extent of completion assessments/ surveys, trainings, strategies, action plans to guide the sustainable management of chemicals and waste (categories: not initiated; incomplete, partially completed; completed; disaggregated by document type)</b> Baseline: not initiated (0) (2018); Target: completed (106) (2021)	<b>Baseline:</b> not initiated (0) Source: UNEP	<b>2021:</b> no report Source: UNEP
<b>Output 4.1.3 Sustainable solutions for climate change resilience including adaptation and mitigation at the community level adopted</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Status of completion of climate change adaptation and mitigation plans/ approaches</b> Baseline: No climate change adaptation plan/approach (2018) Target: 1 plan completed (2019)	Baseline: No climate change adaptation plan Source: FAO	<b>2021:</b> target achieved in 2020; 1 plan completed; Agricultural Disaster Risk Mgmt. Plan Source: FAO

PILLAR	OUTPUT	OUTPUT INDICATOR	2017 (BASELINE)	2021
<b>Output 4.2.1 Legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions enabled to ensure conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, climate change adaptation and mitigation in line with international conventions and national legislation</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Extent to which environmental legislation, regulations, plans and policies developed for submission (disaggregated by type of document)</b> Baseline: Monitoring Framework for Water Sector Policy; Sixth NR to NCBD (2019) not developed; Target: Monitoring Framework for Water Sector Policy, Sixth NR to NCBD developed (2020);	Baseline: Not developed Source: UNDP	<b>2020:</b> Target achieved in 2019 Data source: 6th National Report for the Convention on Biological Diversity - Jamaica Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for National Water Sector Policy of Jamaica Source: UNDP
<b>Output 4.2.2. Solutions developed at national, local and community levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals, and waste</b>				
		<b>Indicator: Number of national level initiatives supported for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services and chemicals and waste</b> Baseline: 0 (2017) Target: 3 (2021)	Baseline: 0 Source: UNEP/UNDP	<b>2021:</b> Target achieved in 2020 (3) Source: UNDP

# ANNEX III

## 2021 Results from The Bahamas

ORGANIZATION	RESULT
IOM	<p>Facilitation of a series of <b>Train the Trainers Workshops</b> with the Department of Gender and Family Affairs, The Bahamas Psychological Association, Bahamas Red Cross, and the Abaco Christian Council. More than 25 volunteers representing five organizations from Nassau, Abaco and Eleuthera have been trained in DRR related subjects such as GBV, Psychosocial First Aid, Fire Safety and Prevention, First Aid, Community and Hazard Mapping, Emergency Planning and Migrants in Countries in Crisis.</p> <p>In close coordination with the Ministry of Education, IOM and partners selected and supported vulnerable families, including migrant families, in Abaco and New Providence (Nassau) with a <b>donation of ICT equipment</b> like tablets and laptops, accessories, Internet access and school fees, to enable their children to participate in pre- and primary school activities.</p> <p>IOM has provided <b>translations of important COVID-19 messages</b> to Haitian creole, Spanish, Tagalog, and Mandarin in collaboration with the Public Hospitals Authority and the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Through funding from USAID, IOM <b>distributed hygiene products</b> including hand sanitizer and face towels to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 in vulnerable communities. The items were distributed in collaboration with The Bahamas Red Cross, the AIDS Foundation, and the Nazareth Center Home for Children.</p>
<p>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP)</p>	<p><b>Call for proposals</b> for the Seventh Operational Phase of the UNDP GEF/SGP issued in September 2021.</p> <p><b>The Hope Town Zero Waste Demonstration Project Phase 2</b> aims to expand the Resource Diversion and Waste Mitigation integrated community based, student-led Zero Waste Project. The goal of the project is to further develop and create a Waste Diversion model for the Elbow Cay Community and other Out Islands and Cays in The Bahamas to highlight a whole systems approach to Resource Diversion and Waste Mitigation as a community (year-round residents, second homeowners and visitors). Through a series of activities and local initiatives, the aim is to create a template that other islands in The Bahamas may implement at various levels and scales. <i>Grantee: The Hope Town Association; Area of Work: Climate Change Mitigation; Grant Amount: US\$49,979.00</i></p> <p><b>Young Reporters for the Environment: Giving our Marine Environment a Voice</b> to address the following: <b>1)</b> Lack of locally-produced media about environmental issues – pollution, biodiversity loss, climate change – and their linkages to the SDGs; <b>2)</b> Lack of knowledge and awareness about these issues and their linkages to the SDGs amongst students ages 11 – 25; and <b>3)</b> Lack of capacity of students to effectively communicate ideas and thoughts related to these issues and their linkages to the SDGs. The YRE programme empowers young people to have their say on environmental issues in their locality which they feel are not being addressed. YRE helps participants to develop skills and acquire knowledge which will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Communication skills, individual initiative, teamwork, critical analysis, social responsibility, and leadership skills are all honed through involvement in the programme. <i>Grantee: Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation Country: Bahamas Area of Work: Climate Change Mitigation Grant Amount: US\$99,138.82 Co-Financing Cash: US\$100,000.00</i></p>

ORGANIZATION	RESULT
UNDP	<p><b>Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Hurricane Dorian and the COVID-19 Pandemic on MSMEs in The Bahamas:</b> This report provides an assessment of the social and economic impact and efficacy of post-Dorian and COVID support programmes on micro, small and mid-sized enterprises in Grand Bahama and Abaco, as well as recommendations for policy development to improve resiliency, promote social and economic recovery and mitigate the impact of future disaster on MSMEs. This report links the available institutional research on the distinct and separate impacts of Hurricane Dorian and COVID-19 with new data collected from an online survey created on the KOBO Humanitarian platform in collaboration with UNDP SURGE Data Hub, Country Support Management Team of the UNDP Crisis Bureau. The survey, launched from November 2020 to February 2021 and promoted via radio and social media, received 486 responses from affected owners of MSMEs in Grand Bahama and Abaco, some of whom had been displaced because of the storm. The respondents represent almost 14 percent of all registered MSMEs on the islands prior to Hurricane Dorian.<sup>9</sup></p>
ILO	<p><b>Second-Generation Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) Launch:</b><sup>10</sup> The Bahamas has become the first Caribbean country to launch a second-generation DCWP. The five-year DWCP, which extends until 2026, was developed between 2020 and 2021 through a series of fully virtual consultations with tripartite constituents and other key stakeholders led by the National Tripartite Council (NTC)</p>
UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)	<p>Conducted the first <b>Comprehensive Assessment on Statelessness and the Risks of Statelessness in The Bahamas</b>. The main objective of this assessment was to provide an approximate estimate of the number of stateless persons and persons who are at risk of statelessness in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas; at the very least provide a baseline; analyse the different profiles of stateless persons or those at risk of statelessness; determine the causes, gaps and challenges for each profile; and provide realistic and feasible solutions to address the said challenges and causes, based on the national legislation and practices.<sup>11</sup></p>
UNICEF	<p>Provided logistical support to ensure the delivery of 38,400 doses of the Johnson &amp; Johnson COVID-19 vaccine to The Bahamas.</p>
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	<p>In December 2021, in the context of the UNETT, OCHA developed guidelines for, and shared them with, the Government of The Bahamas to advance the country's adoption of the 345W emergency coordination tool as an anticipatory emergency management and coordination instrument. Discussions are ongoing with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to determine the technical requirements for the government to host and manage the tool.</p>
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	<p>UNESCO &amp; theBlackboard and the Caribbean Centre for Educational Planning (CCEP) at the UWI launched the <b>Education response to COVID-19: Distance Learning and Teacher Training Strategies in the Caribbean SIDS</b> in January 2021 aimed at training 10,000 teachers in the Caribbean SIDS in the use of online education tools, resources and interactive platforms to effectively engage students through online learning. Through UNESCO's Global Education Coalition, a multi-sectoral education coalition to protect the right to education during COVID-19, this programme is made possible with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).</p> <p>Two Bahamians were included among 30 young people working in human rights and social justice advocacy in the <b>Sheroes Summer School for Gender Equality and Development</b>. In five virtual evening classes for two weeks, 30 young people from across the Caribbean learned basic concepts and tools for project planning in the areas of human rights, sustainable development, with a focus on gender equality and development. The Sheroes Summer School is offered through the Caribbean Sheroes Initiative, a sub-regional Initiative that aims to produce knowledge to advance gender equality and social justice, led by UNESCO and the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at the University of the West Indies. The Sheroes curriculum includes a variety of methods such as interactive group sessions, educational videos, and presentations from well-established gender advocates from the region.</p>

9 [https://www.jm.undp.org/content/jamaica/en/home/library/crisis\\_prevention\\_and\\_recovery/socio-economic-impact-assessment-of-hurricane-dorian-and-the-c.html](https://www.jm.undp.org/content/jamaica/en/home/library/crisis_prevention_and_recovery/socio-economic-impact-assessment-of-hurricane-dorian-and-the-c.html)

10 [https://www.ilo.org/caribbean/newsroom/WCMS\\_831185/lang-en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/caribbean/newsroom/WCMS_831185/lang-en/index.htm)

11 <https://unjobvacancies.com/job/individual-consultant-comprehensive-assessment-on-statelessness-and-the-risks-of-statelessness-in-the-bahamas/>

ORGANIZATION	RESULT
UN WOMEN	<p><b><i>Building Back Equal through Innovative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (SDG Fund Joint Project):</i></b> This multi-country project is intended to pilot innovative financing for gender equality to enable The Bahamas and Bermuda to not only build back equal post COVID-19 but to also be best practice examples to showcase how innovative financing vehicles, digital platforms, and the tools and frameworks of the Women's Empowerment Principles can be leveraged to close the financing gaps that women and youth face in sectors such as agriculture, sustainable tourism, and creative and cultural industries. UN Women is the leading agency (supported by UNDP, UNESCO, and FAO), is intended to be responsible for the JP strategic and technical coherence by providing advice to the UN Resident Coordinator on programme consistency and appropriate political and institutional matters. UNWOMEN will be the responsible agency for the programme's overall monitoring and reporting mechanisms as well as the management of the coordinating unit.</p> <p><b><i>Toward Reversing Discrimination in Law - Mapping and Analysis of the Laws of The Bahamas (Draft Report):</i></b> Based on interest indicated from the National Gender Machineries and/or civil society organisations, four discriminatory law reviews are being conducted in The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago. The reviews will contribute to implementing UN Women's broader equality in the law strategy which focuses on the revision of discriminatory laws as an important part of a broader legal reform agenda that supports the achievement of gender equality. The overall goal of the Discriminatory Law Review is to aid in securing equality in law and practice for women and girls</p>
PAHO/WHO	<p>Despite the challenges that emerged because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the PAHO/WHO Country Office made noteworthy achievements integrating activities within the programme areas of communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, mental health, health throughout the life course, environment and health, and health emergencies. Strategic initiatives were implemented for the promotion of health equity and the protection of human rights, particularly among the urban poor, migrants, older persons, and persons with disabilities. Significant progress has been made in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preventing Diseases through Vaccination</li> <li>● Timely reporting Public Health Events in Compliance with International Health Regulations (IHR)</li> <li>● Strengthening Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services</li> <li>● Protecting and Promoting the Health of Vulnerable Populations</li> <li>● Applying the Health in All Policies Approach to the COVID-19 Response</li> <li>● Building Climate-resilient Health Systems</li> <li>● Achieving Universal Health Coverage</li> </ul> <p>PAHO/WHO continues its fight to reduce the levels of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Technical support for bed management, the continuity of NCD care within an integrated health service delivery network and an aggressive multilingual health promotion campaign were provided during the COVID-19 response efforts by the local PAHO/WHO office</p>

# ACRONYMS

<b>BGA</b>	Bureau of Gender Affairs
<b>C4D</b>	Communication for Development
<b>CDEMA</b>	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
<b>CFPA</b>	Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation
<b>DRR</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction
<b>EMIS</b>	Education Management Information System
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FCTC</b>	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GGPE</b>	Governor General Programme for Excellence
<b>GoJ</b>	Government of Jamaica
<b>HFC</b>	Hydrofluorocarbons
<b>HFLE</b>	Health and Family Life Education
<b>HGSFP</b>	Home Grown School Feeding Project
<b>IDB</b>	InterAmerican Development Bank
<b>IDP</b>	International Development Partner
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>IPV</b>	Interpartner Violence
<b>JAD</b>	Jamaica Association for the Deaf
<b>JCTU</b>	Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions
<b>JCW</b>	Jamaica Community of Positive Women
<b>JN+</b>	Jamaican Network of Seropositives
<b>JP</b>	Joint Programme
<b>JFJ</b>	Jamaicans for Justice
<b>LNOB</b>	Leave No One Behind
<b>MCO</b>	Multi Country Office
<b>MHURECC</b>	Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change
<b>MICS</b>	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
<b>MNE</b>	Multinational Enterprises communication platform
<b>MSDF</b>	Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework
<b>MLSS</b>	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
<b>MNS</b>	Ministry of National Security
<b>MOEYI</b>	Ministry of Education, Youth, and Information



<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MOHW</b>	Ministry of Health and Wellness
<b>MTM</b>	Ministry of Transport and Mining
<b>NFPB</b>	National Family Planning Board
<b>NIS</b>	National Insurance Scheme
<b>NPACV</b>	National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence
<b>NPSC</b>	National Parenting Support Commission
<b>NSOs</b>	National Statistics Offices
<b>ODPEM</b>	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
<b>PIOJ</b>	Planning Institute of Jamaica
<b>POP</b>	Persistent Organic Pollutants
<b>PSOJ</b>	Private Sector Organization of Jamaica
<b>RBB</b>	Results Based Budgeting
<b>RE</b>	Renewable Energy
<b>RHA</b>	Regional Health Authority
<b>RADA</b>	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator Office
<b>RSC</b>	Regional Steering Committee
<b>RCM</b>	Regional Coordinating Mechanism
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SI</b>	Spotlight Initiative
<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>SOP</b>	Standard operating Procedure
<b>SROC</b>	United Nations Populations Fund - Sub-Regional Caribbean Office
<b>TVET</b>	Technical Vocational Education and Training
<b>UDC</b>	Urban Development Corporation
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Coordination Team
<b>UNRCO</b>	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>U-TECH</b>	University of Technology
<b>UWI</b>	University of West Indies
<b>VAWG</b>	Violence Against Women and Girls
<b>WAD</b>	World AIDS Day
<b>WB</b>	World Bank
<b>WCJF</b>	Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation
<b>WEP</b>	Women's Empowerment Principles
<b>WLHIV</b>	Women Living with HIV

# 2021 UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT



UNITED NATIONS  
JAMAICA



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